

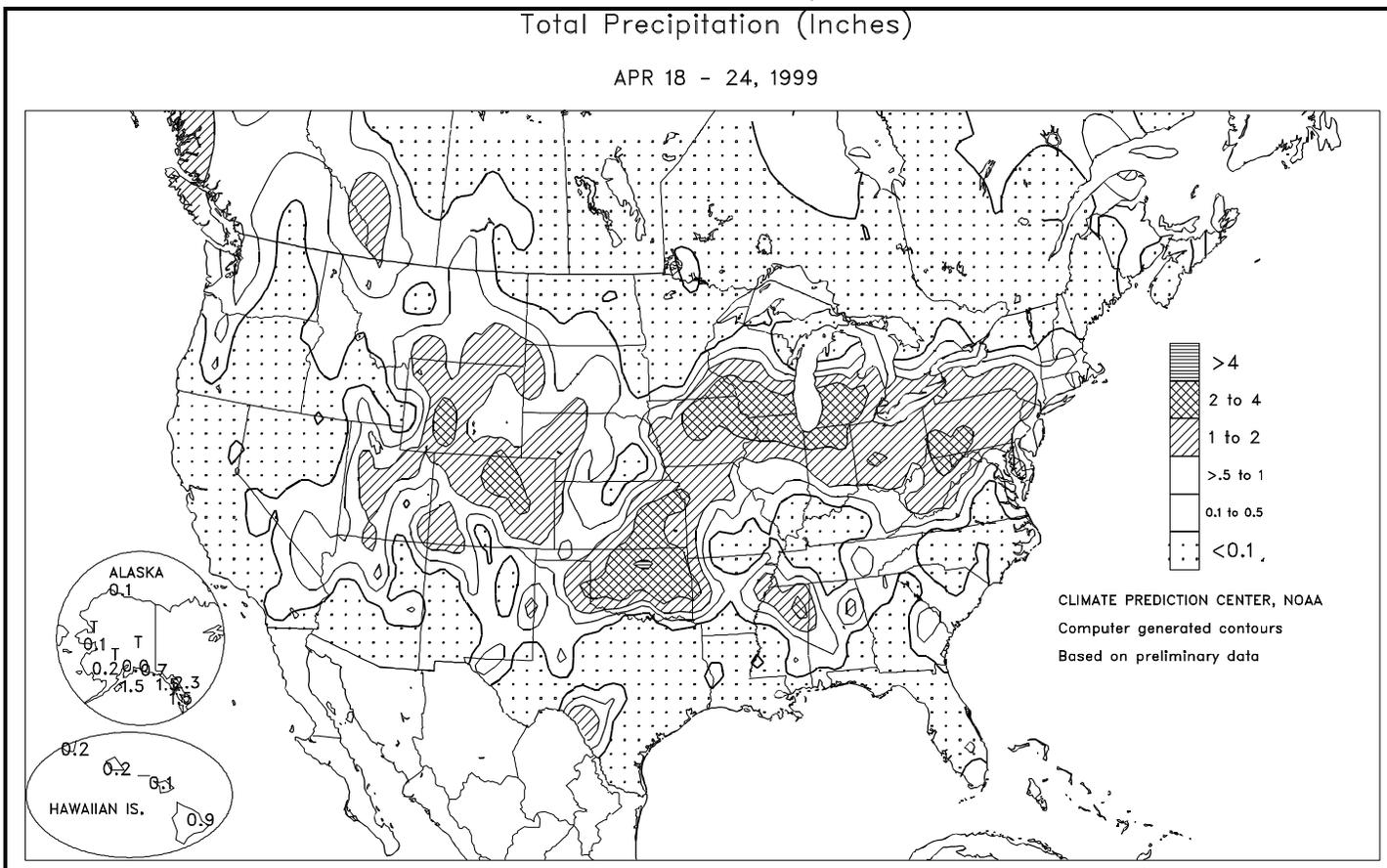
WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
National Agricultural Statistics Service
and World Agricultural Outlook Board

Total Precipitation (Inches)

APR 18 - 24, 1999



CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER, NOAA
Computer generated contours
Based on preliminary data

HIGHLIGHTS

April 18 - 24, 1999

Persistent rainfall generally benefited winter wheat but stalled spring planting across the **Plains** and the **Corn Belt**. Excessive rain fell toward week's end, however, in parts of **Oklahoma**, causing localized lowland flooding. Heavy snow blanketed portions of the **central Rockies** and **central High Plains**. In the **West**, mostly dry weather continued to favor fieldwork, but cooler weather replaced beneficial warmth. Meanwhile in the **South**, scattered early-week frost had few effects on agricultural operations. Temperatures quickly rebounded across **Florida** and **southern Georgia**, however, further depleting topsoil moisture and maintaining the risk of additional wildfires. Topsoils turned dry again in **southern Texas**, where

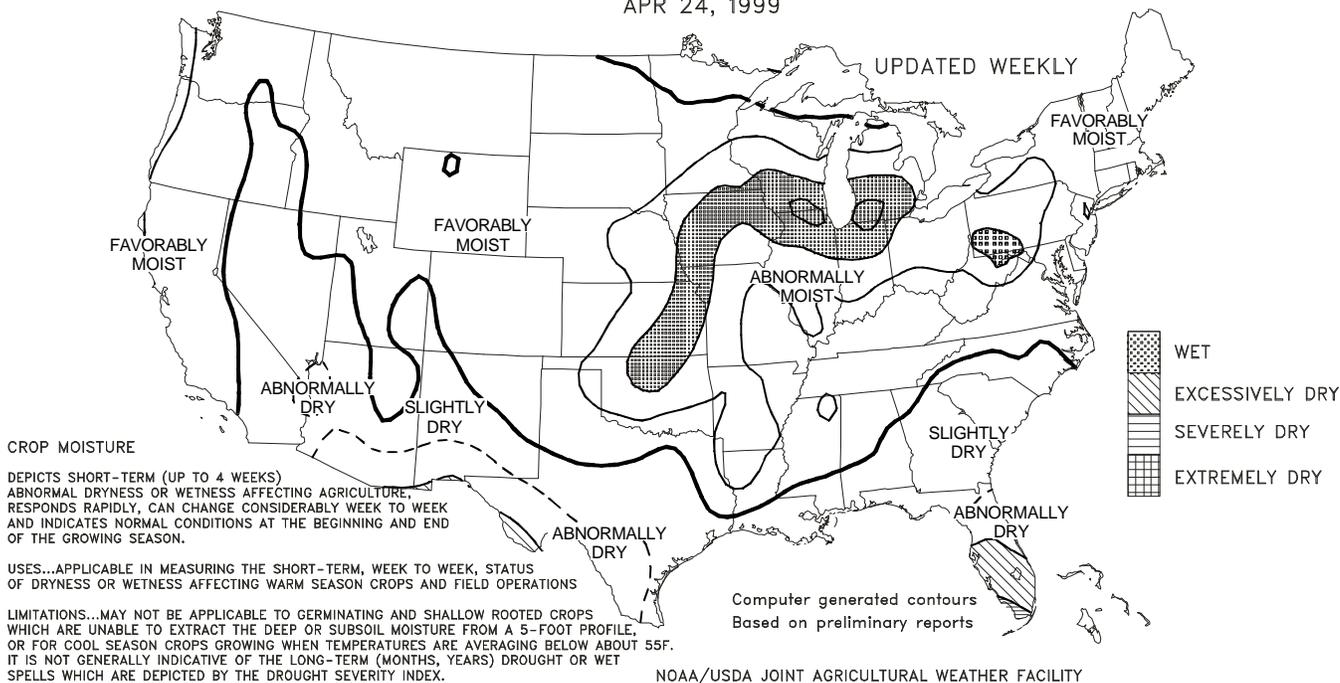
(Continued on page 5)

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Crop Moisture
 SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5-FT. SOIL PROFILE
 APR 24, 1999

UPDATED WEEKLY



CROP MOISTURE

DEPICTS SHORT-TERM (UP TO 4 WEEKS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE. RESPONDS RAPIDLY, CAN CHANGE CONSIDERABLY WEEK TO WEEK AND INDICATES NORMAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GROWING SEASON.

USES...APPLICABLE IN MEASURING THE SHORT-TERM, WEEK TO WEEK, STATUS OF DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING WARM SEASON CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS

LIMITATIONS...MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO GERMINATING AND SHALLOW ROOTED CROPS WHICH ARE UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE DEEP OR SUBSOIL MOISTURE FROM A 5-FOOT PROFILE, OR FOR COOL SEASON CROPS GROWING WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE AVERAGING BELOW ABOUT 55F. IT IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF THE LONG-TERM (MONTHS, YEARS) DROUGHT OR WET SPELLS WHICH ARE DEPICTED BY THE DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX.

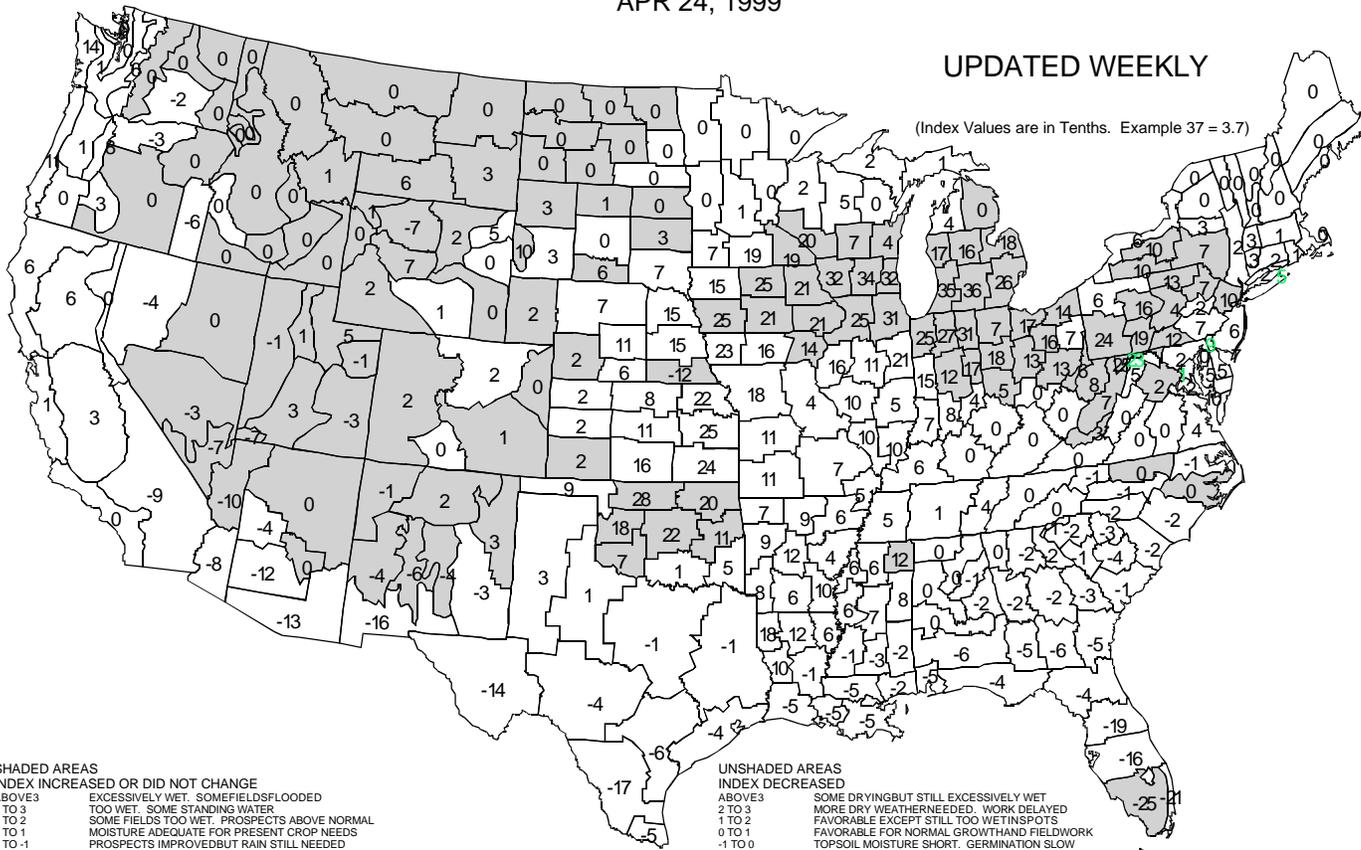
Computer generated contours
 Based on preliminary reports

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY

Crop Moisture Index
 SHORT TERM, CROP NEED VS. AVAILABLE WATER IN 5 - FT. SOIL PROFILE
 APR 24, 1999

UPDATED WEEKLY

(Index Values are in Tenths. Example 37 = 3.7)



SHADED AREAS
 INDEX INCREASED OR DID NOT CHANGE

ABOVE 3	EXCESSIVELY WET. SOME FIELDS FLOODED
2 TO 3	TOO WET. SOME STANDING WATER
1 TO 2	SOME FIELDS TOO WET. PROSPECTS ABOVE NORMAL
0 TO 1	MOISTURE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT CROP NEEDS
0 TO -1	PROSPECTS IMPROVED BUT RAIN STILL NEEDED
-1 TO -2	SOME IMPROVEMENT BUT STILL ABNORMALLY DRY
-2 TO -3	DRYNESS EASED BUT FIELDS STILL EXCESSIVELY DRY
-3 TO -4	SEVERE DRYNESS CONTINUES. MORE RAIN URGENTLY NEEDED
BELOW -4	NOT ENOUGH RAIN. STILL EXTREMELY DRY

UNSHADED AREAS
 INDEX DECREASED

ABOVE 3	SOME DRYING BUT STILL EXCESSIVELY WET
2 TO 3	MORE DRY WEATHER NEEDED. WORK DELAYED
1 TO 2	FAVORABLE EXCEPT STILL TOO WET IN SPOTS
0 TO 1	FAVORABLE FOR NORMAL GROWTH AND FIELDWORK
-1 TO 0	TOPSOIL MOISTURE SHORT. GERMINATION SLOW
-2 TO -1	ABNORMALLY DRY. PROSPECTS DETERIORATING
-3 TO -2	EXCESSIVELY DRY. YIELD PROSPECTS REDUCED
-4 TO -3	POTENTIAL YIELDS SEVERELY CUT BY DRYNESS
BELOW -4	EXTREMELY DRY. MOST CROPS RUINED

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY Based on preliminary reports

Weather Data for Selected Locations in the Delta

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 24, 1999

Data provided by the Mississippi State Delta Research and Extension Center and compiled by USDA/OCE/WAOB's Stoneville Field Office

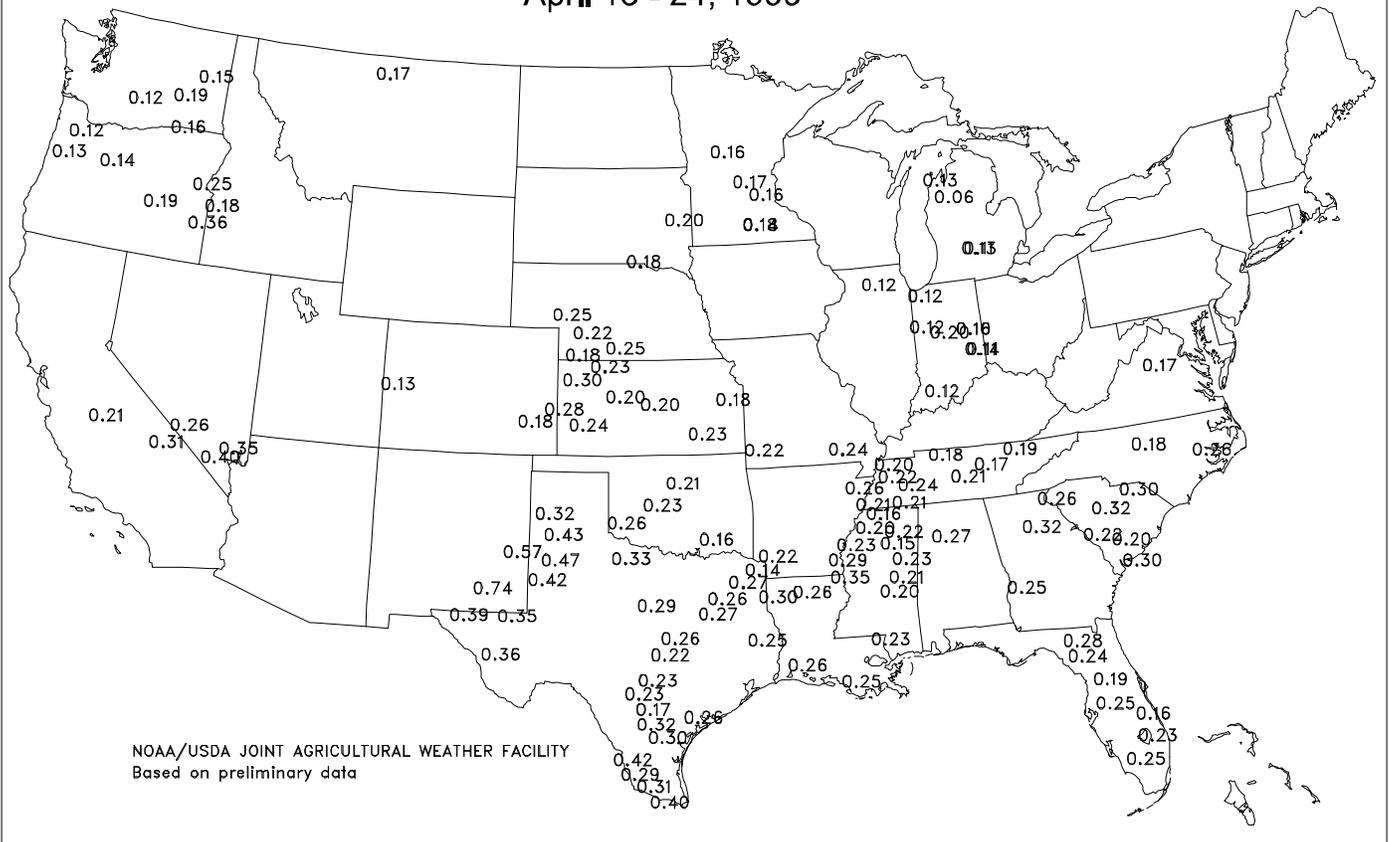
STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F							PRECIPITATION							4-INCH SOIL TEMP, °F		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP		
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE	
MS INDIANOLA 1S	83	58	89	40	71	--	0.00	--	0.00	9.03	--	20.58	--	71	63	0	0	0	0	
INVERNESS 5E	83	59	90	40	71	--	0.00	--	0.00	8.79	--	--	--	71	64	1	0	0	0	
LYON	81	57	88	39	69	--	0.25	--	0.25	8.31	--	19.02	--	--	--	0	0	1	0	
ONWARD	84	60	91	41	72	--	0.00	--	0.00	11.43	--	20.79	--	66	64	2	0	0	0	
SIDON	82	58	88	41	70	--	0.00	--	0.00	8.40	--	20.57	--	77	66	0	0	0	0	
STONEVILLE *	80	58	88	41	69	4	0.00	-1.29	0.00	9.50	99	24.60	129	77	63	0	0	0	0	

* Based on 1964-93 normals.

Delta Weather and Crop Summary: Conditions were favorable for cotton planting this week, as warm, humid weather prevailed across the Mississippi Delta. Soil moisture diminished, however, as little or no precipitation was observed. In addition, brisk late-week winds caused some soil erosion. Warm soils continued to aid crop development throughout the region.

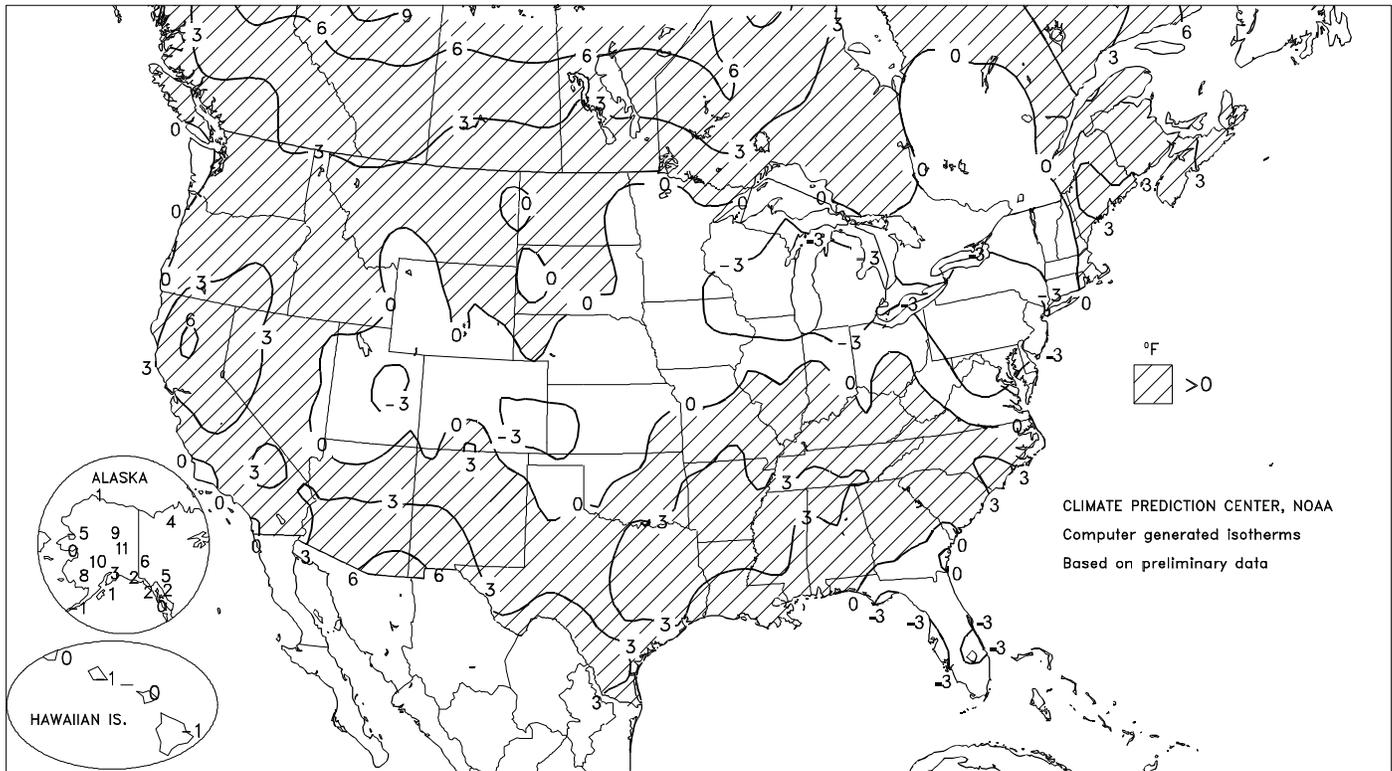
Average Pan Evaporation (Inches/Day)

April 18 - 24, 1999

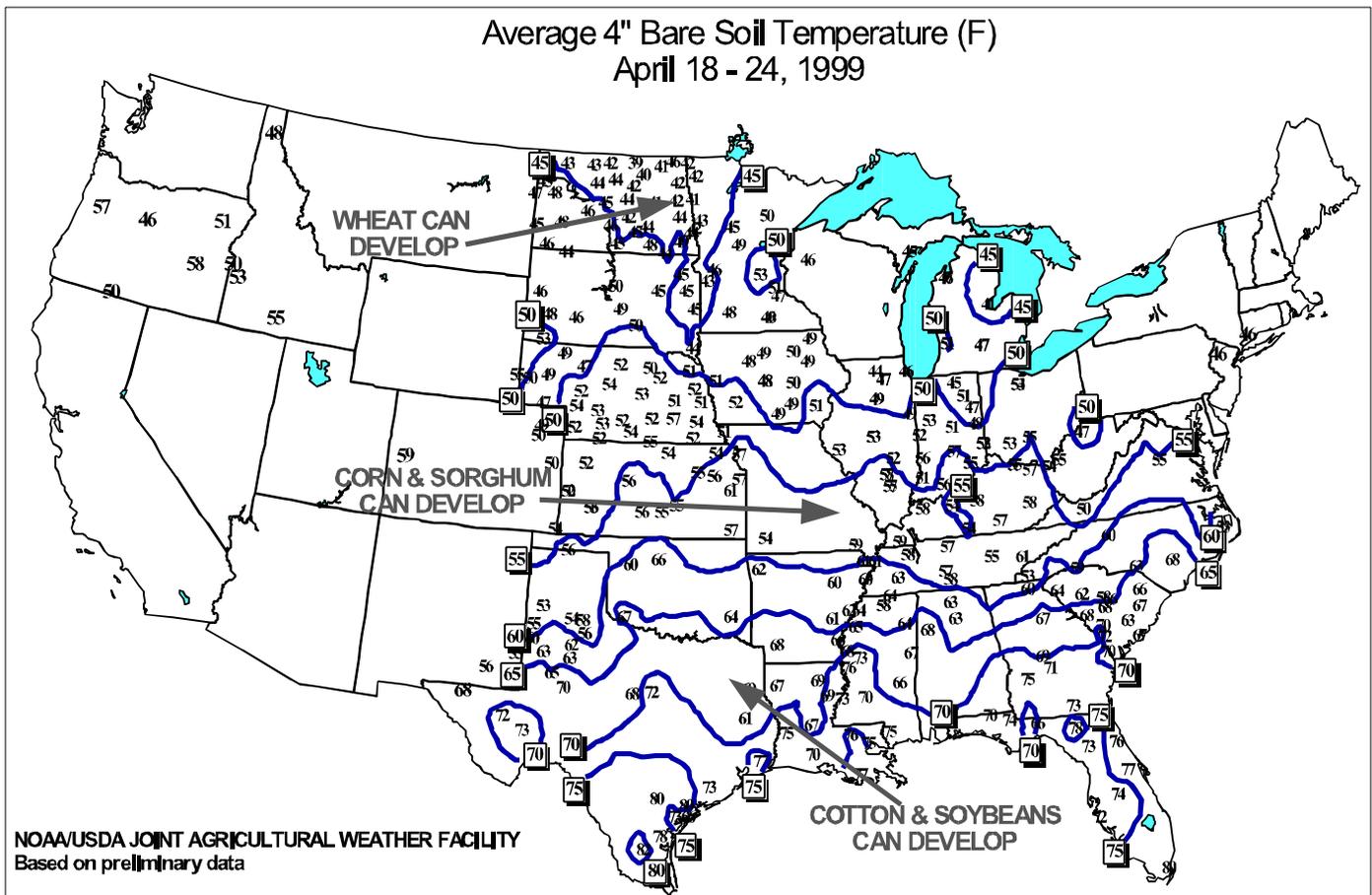


Departure of Average Temperature from Normal (°F)

APR 18 - 24, 1999



Average 4" Bare Soil Temperature (F)
April 18 - 24, 1999



(Continued from front cover)

significant rain last fell in late March. Late in the week, widespread frost and sub-freezing temperatures occurred across the **northern Corn Belt** and **Northeast**, burning back recent winter grain growth and increasing grower concerns about adverse effects on blooming fruit trees.

On April 18-19, record warmth prevailed in **California**, resulting in more than 30 daily-record highs. On Sunday, **El Cajon** posted their fourth consecutive daily-record high (90, 93, 93, and 94°F). A day later, highs soared to 104°F in both **Palm Springs** and **Thermal**. Just 9 days earlier, on April 10, **Thermal** had noted a daily-record low of 33°F.

Meanwhile, frost and near-freezing temperatures shifted from the **central and southern Plains** into the **Southeast**. From April 18-20, daily-record lows were set in more than two dozen locations, including **Meridian, MS** (33°F on Sunday), **Charlotte, NC** (33°F on Sunday), and **Orlando, FL** (46°F on Monday). **Tallahassee, FL** reported consecutive record lows on Sunday (32°F) and Monday (35°F). **Melbourne, FL** logged a daily-record low (50°F on April 20) just 5 days after an April-record high (97°F).

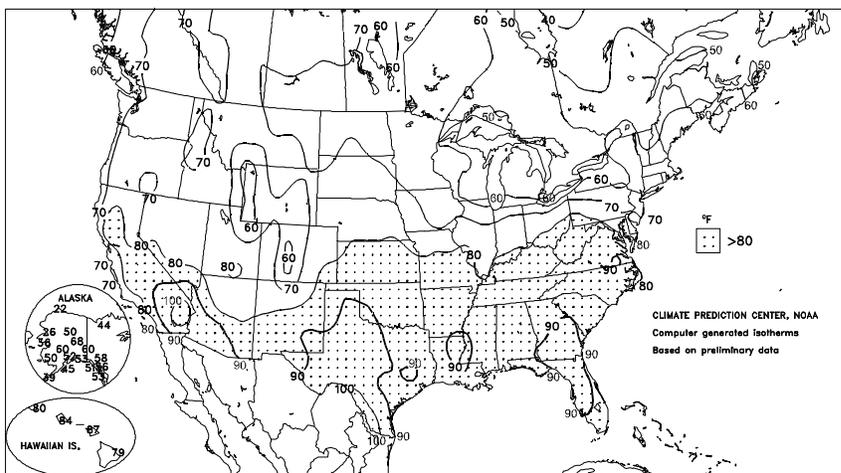
Despite the cooler weather, little rain fell in **Florida** and **southern Georgia**, allowing wildfire activity to continue. From January 24 - April 21, an 88-day period, rainfall totaled less than 25 percent of normal across much of **southeastern Alabama**, **southern Georgia**, and **Peninsular Florida** (see back cover). Through April 20, wildfires in **Florida** consumed more than 230,000 acres (more than 360 square miles), accounting for more than 40 percent of the Nation's year-to-date burned acreage (532,151 acres, or more than 830 square miles).

Showers persisted across the **Corn Belt** for much of the week, boosting April 1-25 precipitation to 6.70 inches (284 percent of normal) in **Madison, WI**, 6.69 inches (236 percent) in **Grand Rapids, MI**, and 6.39 inches (287 percent) in **Rochester, MN**. **Grand Rapids** collected daily-record totals on Thursday (1.72 inches) and Friday (1.44 inches). The only wetter April in **Rochester** occurred in 1990, when 6.47 inches fell. Farther west, 1.28 inches of rain pelted **Miles City, MT** on Wednesday, accounting for nearly 40 percent of their year-to-date total.

Meanwhile, heavy snow blanketed portions of the **Rocky Mountain region**. In **Lander, WY**, April 21-24 snowfall totaled 52.7 inches, most of which fell on Thursday (28.6 inches) and Friday (17.6 inches). Nearby **Riverton, WY** netted 22.2 inches during the same 4-day period. **Lander's** April 1-25 precipitation (rain and melted snow) reached 5.72 inches (340 percent of normal), accounting for nearly 80 percent of their year-to-date total, while their month-to-date snowfall rose to 70.4 inches. April is typically **Lander's** snowiest month, yielding 20.3 inches. Heavy snow fell as far south as **northern Arizona's Kaibab Plateau**, where **Jacob Lake** received 12 inches on Friday. Elsewhere on Friday, a State-record, low-elevation (below 5,000 feet) wind gust was clocked at 113 mph in **Brigham City, UT**.

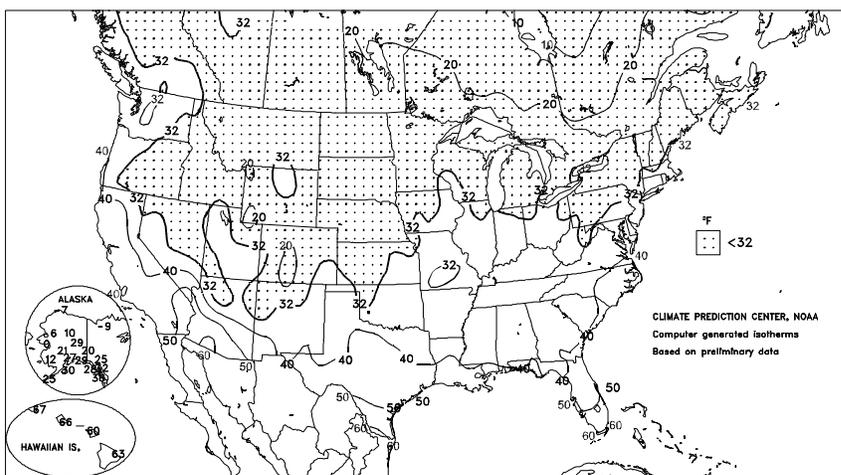
Extreme Maximum Temperature (°F)

APR 18 - 24, 1999



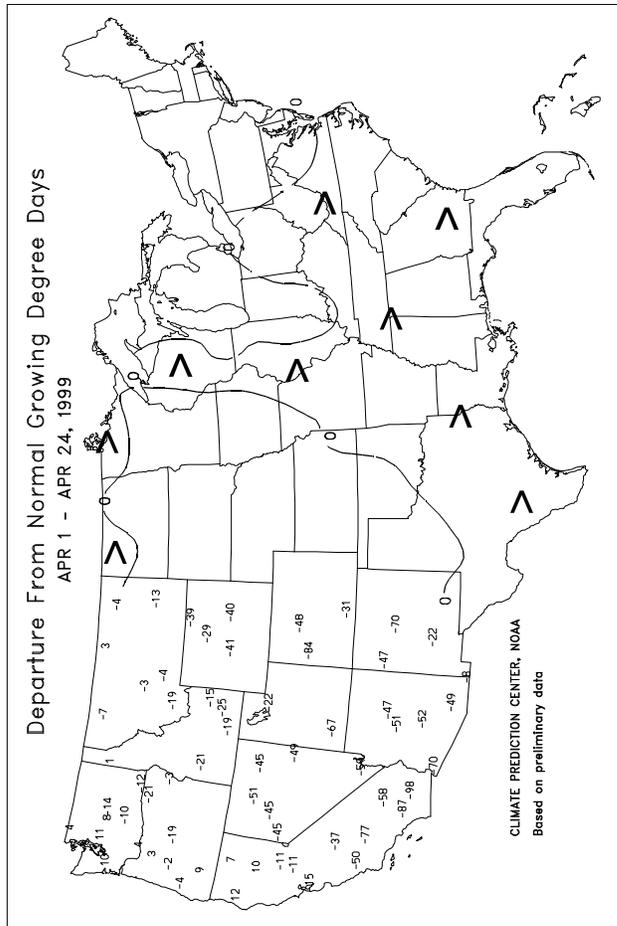
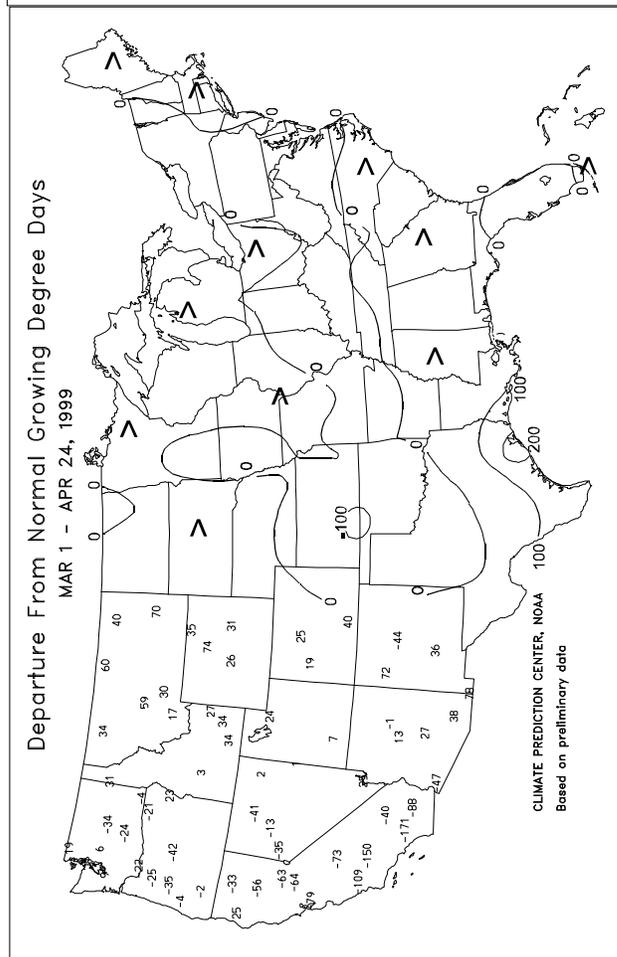
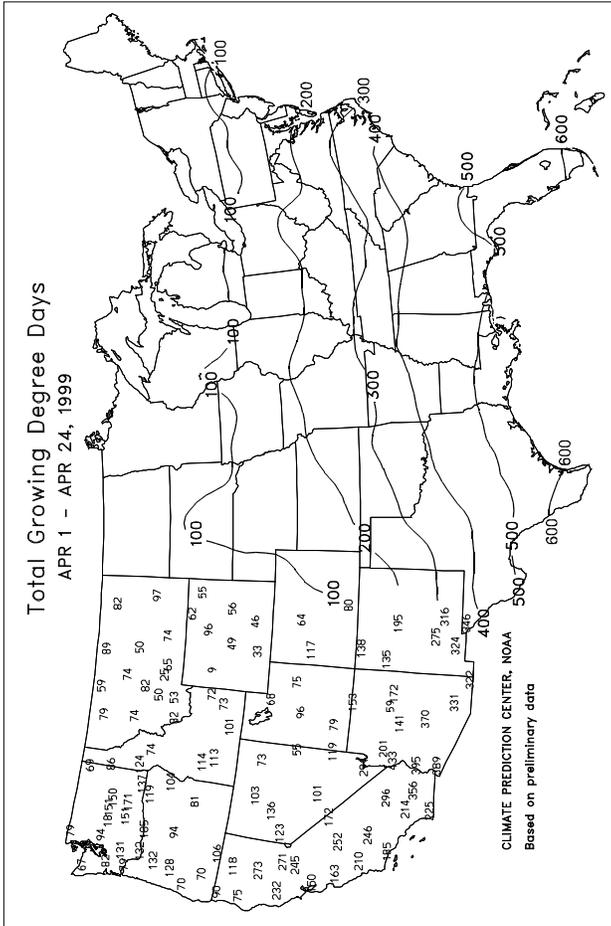
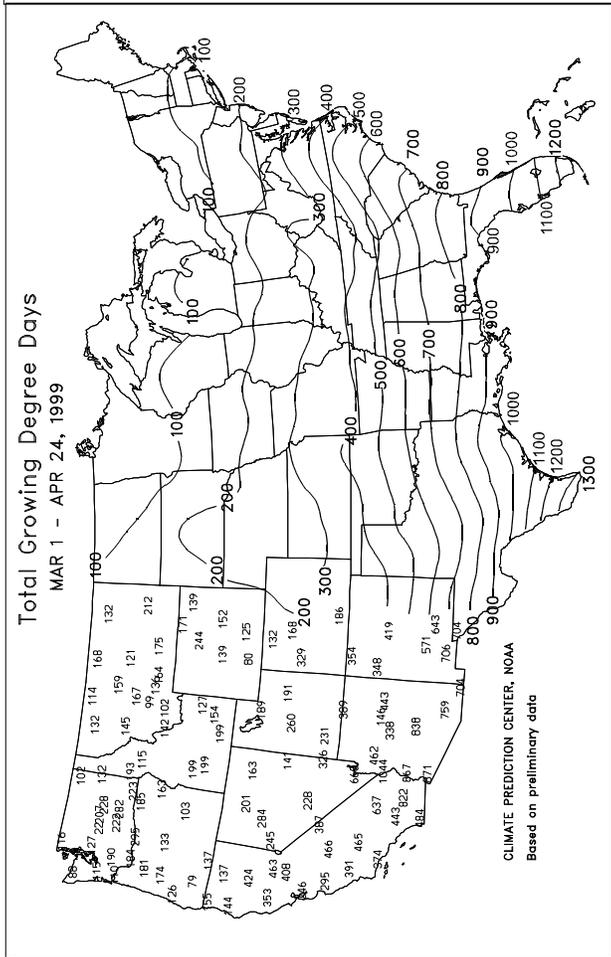
Extreme Minimum Temperature (°F)

APR 18 - 24, 1999



Farther east, warmer weather briefly replaced the early-week chill on the **Plains**. On Tuesday, the temperature in **Wichita, KS** climbed above 80°F for the first time this year. Thereafter, rain dampened the **central Plains** during the mid- to late-week period, accompanied by cooler conditions. Late-week rainfall ranged from 2 to 4 inches in **Oklahoma** (except the panhandle) and **southeastern Kansas**. On Saturday, **Amarillo, TX** registered a high temperature of 44°F. In contrast, daily-record highs occurred in **Mobile, AL** (91°F) and **New Orleans (Audubon Park), LA** (92°F). Farther north, sharply cooler air overspread the **Nation's northeastern quadrant** at week's end. On Saturday, lows included 23°F in **Lansing, MI** and 27°F in **Binghamton, NY**.

Weekly temperatures averaged up to 11°F above normal in **interior Alaska**, where more than 20 daily-record highs were set or tied from April 18-20. Several locations notched records on all 3 days, including **Fairbanks** (68, 66, and 64°F) and **Northway** (57, 59, and 58°F). **Fairbanks** previously had never experienced a high at or above 68°F prior to April 25. Meanwhile, wet conditions persisted across **south-central and southeastern Alaska**. Through Sunday, April 25, **Juneau's** monthly precipitation totaled 7.37 inches, above both the monthly normal (2.77 inches) and their former April record (5.32 inches in 1980).



National Weather Data for Selected Cities

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 24, 1999

Data Provided by Climate Prediction Center (301-763-8000 EXT. 7503)

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN. SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN. SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	.01 INCH OR MORE	.50 INCH OR MORE
AL BIRMINGHAM	79	56	86	36	67	4	0.07	-1.04	0.07	7.70	75	18.60	93	90	37	0	0	1	0
AL HUNTSVILLE	79	53	87	38	66	4	0.73	-0.36	0.55	7.52	71	19.51	94	92	37	0	0	2	1
AL MOBILE	81	57	91	40	69	0	0.01	-0.99	0.01	9.50	95	15.80	78	96	51	1	0	1	0
AL MONTGOMERY	80	53	87	37	66	1	0.08	-0.89	0.08	9.39	94	14.26	71	95	44	0	0	1	0
AK ANCHORAGE	49	34	52	27	41	3	0.00	-0.17	0.00	0.86	68	1.50	53	82	42	0	1	0	0
AK BARROW	7	-2	22	-7	3	1	0.11	0.05	0.04	0.33	100	0.49	87	85	70	0	7	4	0
AK FAIRBANKS	56	34	68	29	45	11	0.01	-0.07	0.00	0.38	58	0.83	54	74	31	0	3	1	0
AK JUNEAU	49	37	56	32	43	2	2.34	1.69	1.09	9.48	173	20.22	147	98	62	0	1	5	2
AK KODIAK	42	36	45	30	39	1	1.50	0.50	0.78	7.52	95	19.20	93	92	68	0	1	5	1
AK NOME	27	13	36	0	20	0	0.10	-0.07	0.05	0.72	66	2.88	116	95	69	0	7	4	0
AZ FLAGSTAFF	58	31	69	25	45	1	0.75	0.45	0.51	3.33	87	4.09	51	72	27	0	4	3	1
AZ PHOENIX	87	63	95	57	75	3	0.00	-0.03	0.00	1.32	119	1.50	61	40	15	3	0	0	0
AZ TUCSON	85	59	91	52	72	5	0.00	-0.06	0.00	1.42	148	1.43	57	30	10	3	0	0	0
AZ YUMA	89	62	99	53	75	3	0.02	-0.01	0.01	1.17	334	1.77	192	52	21	4	0	2	0
AR FORT SMITH	80	54	87	33	67	4	0.59	-0.36	0.59	8.81	125	12.10	105	88	43	0	0	1	1
AR LITTLE ROCK	81	55	86	36	68	4	0.00	-1.30	0.00	6.73	72	15.56	95	89	41	0	0	0	0
CA BAKERSFIELD	78	50	89	45	64	0	0.00	-0.11	0.00	1.11	73	5.49	159	76	25	0	0	0	0
CA EUREKA	56	46	58	40	51	0	0.00	-0.57	0.00	10.98	141	25.67	139	90	67	0	0	0	0
CA FRESNO	80	52	90	47	66	4	0.00	-0.18	0.00	1.84	68	5.85	91	78	20	1	0	0	0
CA LOS ANGELES	69	56	77	55	63	2	0.00	-0.12	0.00	3.68	139	6.09	81	83	51	0	0	0	0
CA REDDING	79	55	85	52	67	8	0.00	-0.40	0.00	5.06	82	15.83	95	58	21	0	0	0	0
CA SACRAMENTO	78	49	81	42	64	4	0.00	-0.21	0.00	2.29	64	9.69	95	79	28	0	0	0	0
CA SAN DIEGO	66	56	78	51	61	-1	0.00	-0.14	0.00	2.75	112	4.99	86	88	58	0	0	0	0
CA SAN FRANCISCO	64	51	75	48	57	1	0.04	-0.20	0.04	5.03	117	12.61	107	84	44	0	0	1	0
CO ALAMOSA	62	29	69	22	46	3	0.14	0.03	0.02	0.69	83	0.76	55	80	20	0	4	2	0
CO CO SPRINGS	54	35	72	31	45	-3	1.73	1.43	1.00	2.53	138	2.70	108	76	41	0	3	4	1
CO DENVER	56	36	73	28	46	-4	2.29	1.86	1.88	3.59	139	4.14	113	78	35	0	3	3	1
CO GRAND JUNCTION	64	41	80	36	53	-1	0.92	0.75	0.31	1.33	89	1.70	66	69	30	0	0	4	0
CO PUEBLO	63	37	80	26	50	-4	1.45	1.23	0.48	3.13	214	3.25	156	85	38	0	1	4	0
CT BRIDGEPORT	56	41	61	36	48	-2	0.62	-0.26	0.55	5.07	75	15.51	119	97	57	0	0	3	1
CT HARTFORD	57	38	64	34	48	-3	0.66	-0.25	0.31	5.63	84	14.39	108	86	44	0	0	4	0
DC WASHINGTON	63	45	79	41	54	-4	0.68	0.05	0.29	6.27	119	14.23	133	89	43	0	0	6	0
DE WILMINGTON	59	42	74	38	51	-3	0.76	-0.04	0.39	7.43	121	16.36	135	89	48	0	0	5	0
FL DAYTONA BEACH	81	54	90	45	67	-3	0.00	-0.51	0.00	1.35	29	7.98	76	97	38	1	0	0	0
FL JACKSONVILLE	82	53	92	40	68	0	0.00	-0.63	0.00	2.36	40	8.49	65	92	33	1	0	0	0
FL KEY WEST	80	72	84	66	76	-2	0.11	-0.33	0.11	0.94	31	5.02	73	87	66	0	0	1	0
FL MIAMI	81	67	90	58	74	-2	0.36	-0.37	0.30	0.61	14	3.86	45	84	46	1	0	1	0
FL ORLANDO	83	56	92	46	70	-2	0.00	-0.39	0.00	1.46	31	4.72	47	94	30	2	0	0	0
FL PENSACOLA	79	60	88	45	70	1	0.00	-0.81	0.00	4.91	56	11.54	61	95	54	0	0	0	0
FL TALLAHASSEE	84	46	93	32	65	-3	0.02	-0.78	0.01	3.70	40	9.61	49	96	30	2	1	2	0
FL TAMPA	81	60	90	54	71	-1	0.00	-0.23	0.00	0.97	25	4.30	48	82	31	1	0	0	0
GA WEST PALM	81	63	89	53	72	-2	0.03	-0.67	0.03	0.89	15	9.30	82	84	44	0	0	1	0
GA ATHENS	79	49	89	36	64	1	0.18	-0.70	0.09	3.91	45	12.06	68	96	38	0	0	2	0
GA ATLANTA	77	52	85	38	65	2	0.14	-0.80	0.08	4.42	48	11.72	62	86	38	0	0	2	0
GA AUGUSTA	81	48	90	36	64	0	0.04	-0.70	0.03	3.83	52	11.91	76	92	31	1	0	2	0
GA COLUMBUS	81	55	87	41	68	1	0.00	-0.95	0.00	3.67	40	9.51	51	87	36	0	0	0	0
GA MACON	82	50	90	36	66	0	0.21	-0.56	0.21	3.74	49	11.93	71	95	35	1	0	1	0
GA SAVANNAH	82	52	90	36	67	-1	0.00	-0.69	0.00	2.20	36	10.27	79	94	31	1	0	0	0
HI HILO	78	65	79	63	72	-1	0.88	-2.62	0.25	27.62	105	63.76	137	91	61	0	0	7	0
HI HONOLULU	82	69	84	66	75	-1	0.23	-0.10	0.12	1.26	36	4.12	45	81	52	0	0	3	0
HI KAHULUI	84	65	87	60	74	0	0.13	-0.26	0.00	1.83	43	5.96	53	87	45	0	0	3	0
HI LIHUE	78	70	80	67	74	0	0.19	-0.60	0.08	4.04	58	9.71	60	83	62	0	0	5	0
ID BOISE	65	40	77	28	53	2	0.05	-0.23	0.03	1.15	50	4.51	94	72	24	0	1	2	0
ID LEWISTON	65	42	75	33	54	2	0.11	-0.17	0.07	1.64	84	3.53	85	80	31	0	0	3	0
ID POCATELLO	60	37	73	28	48	2	0.13	-0.15	0.12	1.57	71	4.22	101	70	23	0	2	1	0
IL CHICAGO/O'HARE	52	38	61	31	45	-6	2.87	2.02	1.26	8.25	148	14.36	170	97	60	0	1	5	2
IL MOLINE	60	39	74	31	50	-3	1.53	0.59	1.26	6.63	109	10.68	121	89	54	0	1	3	1
IL PEORIA	63	44	75	35	54	0	0.34	-0.57	0.31	4.26	72	8.50	96	91	55	0	0	2	0
IL ROCKFORD	55	36	59	30	46	-4	3.02	2.14	1.10	7.61	142	11.89	152	97	61	0	1	5	3
IL SPRINGFIELD	66	46	77	36	56	0	0.17	-0.68	0.15	4.74	77	8.83	93	90	55	0	0	3	0
IN EVANSVILLE	70	48	81	37	59	1	0.04	-0.89	0.04	7.02	89	14.96	109	83	45	0	0	1	0
IN FORT WAYNE	59	39	74	30	49	-2	2.71	1.91	1.66	6.96	125	12.28	131	93	54	0	1	5	2
IN INDIANAPOLIS	64	46	75	39	55	1	0.71	-0.14	0.56	4.56	68	14.48	126	87	50	0	0	5	1
IN SOUTH BEND	57	39	65	31	48	-3	3.05	2.16	1.75	7.92	128	12.61	122	92	54	0	1	5	2
IA BURLINGTON	65	44	79	36	55	1	1.74	0.91	1.59	6.56	117	11.29	141	87	51	0	0	3	1
IA CEDAR RAPIDS	58	39	61	33	48	-3	1.76	0.99	1.34	5.95	123	9.82	144	91	56	0	0	3	1
IA DES MOINES	60	41	70	31	50	-3	0.88	0.07	0.50	5.09	102	7.31	104	88	53	0	1	3	1
IA DUBUQUE	54	38	59	33	46	-4	3.04	2.14	2.04	7.19	124	10.31	123	93	59	0	0	6	2
IA SIOUX CITY	62	40	76	27	51	-2	0.69	0.11	0.67	5.24	140	6.38	128	89	47	0	1	3	1
IA WATERLOO	58	37	63	32	48	-3	1.93	1.12	1.34	5.16	106	7.36	109	92	53	0	1	4	2
KS CONCORDIA	65	44	81	33	55	0	0.28	-0.29	0.17	4.67	118	5.44	103	85	51	0	0	3	0
KS DODGE CITY	68	44	84	35	56	-1	0.33	-0.18	0.23	5.97	191	7.94	187	83	45	0	0	2	0
KS GOODLAND	61	37	78	32	49	-2	0.92	0.58	0.39	3.57	172	4.13	146	84	43	0	1	3	0
KS TOPEKA	67	44	80	31	56	-1	1.86	1.11	1.78	7.84	162	9.95	146	96	53	0	1	2	1

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 24, 1999

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
KY WICHITA	68	47	82	31	58	-1	1.15	0.58	0.46	6.93	162	8.67	144	90	58	0	1	4	0
KY JACKSON	70	48	82	40	59	0	0.73	-0.18	0.57	5.30	67	14.91	96	81	37	0	0	4	1
KY LEXINGTON	67	45	79	37	56	-1	0.30	-0.60	0.12	5.24	70	13.74	101	90	53	0	0	5	0
KY LOUISVILLE	69	50	81	42	60	1	0.14	-0.84	0.04	5.05	63	14.67	103	83	46	0	0	4	0
LA PADUCAH	73	50	80	34	62	2	0.00	-1.16	0.00	8.70	98	17.07	106	84	46	0	0	0	0
LA BATON ROUGE	84	58	91	40	71	1	0.00	-1.27	0.00	5.59	61	12.56	64	99	41	2	0	0	0
LA LAKE CHARLES	81	61	86	41	71	1	0.00	-0.83	0.00	3.77	65	10.52	76	96	54	0	0	0	0
LA NEW ORLEANS	82	60	89	43	71	1	0.00	-1.05	0.00	5.03	59	9.15	47	91	50	0	0	0	0
LA SHREVEPORT	83	61	89	37	72	5	0.00	-0.91	0.00	12.46	192	25.84	180	90	44	0	0	0	0
ME CARIBOU	49	32	58	29	41	0	0.23	-0.35	0.08	3.68	84	8.65	99	92	42	0	5	5	0
ME PORTLAND	57	36	61	33	47	1	0.05	-0.91	0.00	4.74	68	14.76	107	80	33	0	0	1	0
MD BALTIMORE	61	40	82	33	51	-5	0.25	-0.47	0.13	5.76	98	13.11	109	91	43	0	0	4	0
MA BOSTON	57	43	61	36	50	0	0.53	-0.30	0.33	3.41	52	12.61	92	82	46	0	0	4	0
MA WORCESTER	55	39	60	31	47	0	0.57	-0.35	0.50	5.01	71	14.41	101	89	45	0	1	4	1
MI ALPENA	48	32	50	23	40	-3	0.13	-0.40	0.13	2.22	57	5.96	88	93	47	0	3	1	0
MI GRAND RAPIDS	53	36	58	29	44	-4	3.26	2.46	1.61	7.73	145	12.76	149	93	49	0	4	4	2
MI HOUGHTON LAKE	50	32	57	24	41	-4	0.59	0.07	0.37	2.94	78	6.09	95	91	45	0	3	3	0
MI LANSING	51	34	58	23	43	-6	4.28	3.62	2.37	8.20	180	11.52	155	99	62	0	4	6	2
MI MARQUETTE	42	26	51	20	34	-6	0.20	-0.41	0.10	3.30	68	11.37	129	85	47	0	6	2	0
MI MUSKOGON	52	35	60	27	44	-4	2.45	1.76	1.26	5.27	109	8.98	103	94	48	0	4	4	2
MN DULUTH	50	30	61	25	40	-1	0.13	-0.41	0.02	3.52	96	5.03	89	84	39	0	4	3	0
MN INT'L FALLS	55	27	66	23	41	-1	0.26	-0.14	0.24	4.05	178	4.63	122	84	32	0	7	2	0
MN MINNEAPOLIS	56	37	63	30	46	-3	0.39	-0.20	0.19	5.37	141	8.44	150	81	43	0	1	4	0
MN ROCHESTER	53	36	60	34	44	-3	1.87	1.20	1.51	7.22	185	10.30	190	95	59	0	0	5	1
MN ST. CLOUD	56	33	65	25	44	-2	0.14	-0.45	0.05	3.34	103	4.25	93	81	38	0	3	2	0
MS JACKSON	82	57	89	37	70	4	0.00	-1.28	0.00	6.29	61	16.80	83	95	44	0	0	0	0
MS MERIDIAN	82	53	89	33	68	2	0.15	-1.06	0.03	7.10	63	14.90	68	98	43	0	0	1	0
MO TUPELO	79	55	87	36	67	3	2.78	1.57	2.78	14.19	138	28.66	144	92	45	0	0	1	1
MO COLUMBIA	70	47	81	32	58	2	0.80	-0.14	0.34	6.19	101	10.79	114	91	50	0	1	4	0
MO KANSAS CITY	66	45	78	32	56	-1	2.52	1.74	2.26	7.84	160	11.90	168	88	54	0	1	3	1
MO SAINT LOUIS	72	50	83	36	61	2	0.37	-0.45	0.20	5.00	79	13.61	132	87	46	0	0	2	0
MO SPRINGFIELD	71	47	83	30	59	2	0.12	-0.85	0.08	7.65	106	13.50	121	89	46	0	1	3	0
MT BILLINGS	56	39	74	32	48	0	0.81	0.37	0.46	1.94	78	3.01	74	80	39	0	1	3	0
MT BUTTE	54	30	69	21	42	2	0.51	0.27	0.26	1.74	121	2.65	112	84	31	0	5	4	0
MT GLASGOW	60	36	68	28	48	1	0.47	0.28	0.25	1.59	179	2.98	196	79	31	0	1	4	0
MT GREAT FALLS	59	33	74	25	46	0	0.01	-0.35	0.01	0.89	41	1.57	43	76	29	0	4	1	0
MT KALISPELL	61	36	74	32	49	4	0.41	0.14	0.25	1.31	72	3.88	87	89	27	0	2	4	0
MT MILES CITY	61	38	72	26	49	1	1.40	1.05	1.28	2.81	171	3.43	130	83	37	0	1	3	1
NE MISSOULA	59	32	72	23	46	0	0.07	-0.17	0.00	0.55	33	2.60	70	82	28	0	4	1	0
NE GRAND ISLAND	62	41	78	27	52	-2	0.04	-0.59	0.01	4.70	124	5.34	107	84	48	0	1	2	0
NE LINCOLN	63	41	78	26	52	-2	0.15	-0.53	0.08	5.83	138	7.46	136	88	49	0	1	3	0
NE NORFOLK	62	42	76	30	52	0	0.13	-0.44	0.09	5.91	164	6.75	138	84	43	0	1	2	0
NE NORTH PLATTE	62	37	77	23	49	-1	0.48	-0.03	0.43	2.49	93	3.09	88	90	46	0	2	2	0
NE OMAHA	63	42	76	30	52	-2	0.18	-0.49	0.15	8.92	221	10.91	196	93	49	0	1	2	0
NE SCOTTSBLUFF	59	37	76	29	48	-1	0.68	0.27	0.48	3.63	160	3.92	122	89	36	0	2	4	0
NE VALENTINE	61	36	77	28	49	0	0.84	0.40	0.72	2.93	130	3.80	129	86	34	0	1	3	1
NV ELY	54	32	71	28	43	0	0.36	0.12	0.16	0.86	50	1.67	54	78	26	0	5	4	0
NV LAS VEGAS	78	57	91	51	67	2	0.29	0.23	0.16	0.52	84	0.60	39	41	22	2	0	3	0
NV RENO	66	41	76	37	54	4	0.01	-0.07	0.00	0.59	59	2.61	84	67	20	0	0	1	0
NV WINNEMUCCA	62	39	76	31	50	3	0.07	-0.12	0.03	0.71	49	2.76	98	77	23	0	1	3	0
NH CONCORD	58	33	62	29	45	-1	0.53	-0.16	0.39	3.89	77	12.11	120	87	32	0	4	3	0
NJ NEWARK	58	43	61	39	51	-4	0.74	-0.16	0.41	5.64	82	15.62	117	81	42	0	0	5	0
NM ALBUQUERQUE	72	47	80	40	59	2	0.43	0.32	0.43	1.73	190	1.85	101	49	15	0	0	1	0
NY ALBANY	54	37	62	32	46	-3	0.29	-0.41	0.16	4.90	92	11.27	113	89	41	0	1	3	0
NY BINGHAMTON	48	34	56	27	41	-6	0.92	0.18	0.61	5.11	96	11.41	114	93	53	0	3	5	1
NY BUFFALO	50	36	60	29	43	-4	0.91	0.23	0.64	4.80	97	11.68	117	91	54	0	1	5	1
NY ROCHESTER	51	35	59	29	43	-5	0.87	0.25	0.64	5.54	127	10.15	119	90	43	0	3	4	1
NY SYRACUSE	52	36	59	31	44	-4	0.54	-0.26	0.36	5.55	102	12.31	124	87	42	0	1	3	0
NC ASHEVILLE	72	44	82	34	58	1	0.04	-0.72	0.01	4.43	61	14.10	98	91	38	0	0	3	0
NC CHARLOTTE	75	50	85	34	63	2	0.00	-0.59	0.00	2.51	38	8.70	62	83	37	0	0	0	0
NC GREENSBORO	73	48	85	37	61	2	0.00	-0.65	0.00	3.56	60	10.45	84	75	35	0	0	0	0
NC HATTERAS	68	55	72	46	62	2	0.13	-0.67	0.08	6.29	88	12.48	75	80	51	0	0	3	0
NC RALEIGH	75	49	88	38	62	2	0.00	-0.59	0.00	6.00	103	13.74	106	79	36	0	0	0	0
NC WILMINGTON	78	57	88	45	68	4	0.00	-0.66	0.00	4.03	66	10.83	79	86	40	0	0	0	0
ND BISMARCK	61	33	73	27	47	1	0.37	-0.06	0.28	1.88	92	3.40	115	87	41	0	4	3	0
ND DICKINSON	59	34	68	26	46	2	0.37	-0.11	0.28	1.59	75	2.83	100	85	36	0	3	3	0
ND FARGO	57	33	67	24	45	-1	0.08	-0.38	0.07	2.88	117	4.23	117	85	39	0	3	2	0
ND GRAND FORKS	56	31	66	28	44	-1	0.09	-0.25	0.05	1.94	98	3.16	100	94	42	0	7	2	0
ND JAMESTOWN	56	33	64	26	45	-1	0.01	-0.38	0.01	1.95	94	3.58	114	91	36	0	3	1	0
ND WILLISTON	60	30	66	22	45	-1	0.03	-0.30	0.03	0.63	38	2.93	111	79	28	0	4	1	0
OH AKRON-CANTON	58	39	77	30	48	-2	0.64	-0.10	0.29	5.37	92	11.67	114	95	44	0	2	5	0
OH CINCINNATI	66	45	77	39	55	0	0.75	-0.11	0.56	4.41	61	12.83	103	90	45	0	0	4	1
OH CLEVELAND	55	40	70	35	48	-2	1.13	0.39	0.71	5.62	104	11.33	118	95	54	0	0	5	1
OH COLUMBUS	63	43	79	35	53	0	1.87	1.11	0.76	6.56	113	12.19	119	97	48	0	0	5	2
OH DAYTON	64	42	78	33	53	0	1.26	0.45	0.95	5.16	84	13.06	125	92	51	0	0	5	1
OH MANSFIELD	57	39	76	30	48	-2	1.39	0.52	0.44	6.77	110	13.07	129	95	45	0	1	5	0

Based on 1961-90 normals

Weather Data for the Week Ending April 24, 1999

STATES AND STATIONS	TEMPERATURE °F						PRECIPITATION							RELATIVE HUMIDITY PERCENT		NUMBER OF DAYS			
	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	EXTREME HIGH	EXTREME LOW	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	WEEKLY TOTAL, IN.	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	GREATEST IN 24-HOUR, IN.	TOTAL IN, SINCE Mar 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Mar 1	TOTAL IN, SINCE Jan 1	PCT. NORMAL SINCE Jan 1	AVERAGE MAXIMUM	AVERAGE MINIMUM	TEMP. °F		PRECIP.	
																90 AND ABOVE	32 AND BELOW	0.1 INCH OR MORE	5.0 INCH OR MORE
OK	55	40	63	31	47	-2	1.55	0.86	0.79	6.37	127	11.19	132	90	51	0	1	4	1
OK	57	38	78	29	48	-2	1.23	0.51	0.55	6.80	122	14.21	146	94	43	0	2	6	1
OK	76	52	87	33	64	2	0.70	0.01	0.67	5.70	119	8.72	117	87	49	0	0	2	1
OK	75	52	85	37	63	0	1.46	0.55	0.80	6.46	102	10.73	109	82	49	0	0	4	1
OR	56	41	64	33	48	-1	0.38	-0.59	0.18	11.43	105	43.50	153	10	65	0	0	4	0
OR	60	35	71	28	48	3	0.00	-0.14	0.00	1.13	74	4.72	144	80	28	0	3	0	0
OR	63	43	76	42	53	2	0.11	-0.52	0.06	5.80	71	23.49	108	91	47	0	0	3	0
OR	67	42	80	32	55	3	0.11	-0.14	0.02	1.31	47	9.28	125	84	30	0	1	2	0
OR	63	39	75	29	51	0	0.09	-0.16	0.03	1.76	87	3.79	81	82	35	0	1	3	0
OR	63	44	79	41	54	2	0.30	-0.22	0.12	5.35	97	20.69	141	98	47	0	0	4	0
OR	63	42	78	40	52	2	0.41	-0.09	0.10	6.41	103	27.42	165	94	45	0	0	4	0
PA	56	35	66	30	46	-6	0.22	-0.62	0.00	4.87	80	12.96	106	98	55	0	2	2	0
PA	51	38	61	30	44	-4	0.77	0.00	0.44	6.00	108	12.80	127	91	52	0	2	3	0
PA	60	41	70	37	51	-3	0.85	0.07	0.40	5.74	99	12.58	109	91	49	0	0	4	0
PA	59	42	72	39	51	-4	1.04	0.19	0.55	7.63	120	15.47	125	91	51	0	0	5	1
PA	59	39	81	31	49	-3	1.25	0.52	0.47	5.76	97	13.04	120	95	41	0	1	5	0
PA	53	36	61	31	45	-6	0.89	0.17	0.53	4.96	102	11.22	123	93	59	0	1	5	1
PA	57	36	71	32	46	-5	0.69	-0.07	0.39	5.96	103	12.83	116	90	48	0	1	4	0
RI	58	42	63	36	50	1	0.57	-0.39	0.28	5.01	68	17.16	116	86	44	0	0	4	0
SC	80	55	88	42	68	1	0.31	-0.32	0.31	2.05	32	6.99	52	87	36	0	0	1	0
SC	79	54	87	41	67	0	0.02	-0.56	0.02	3.41	53	10.38	79	90	35	0	0	1	0
SC	80	51	87	37	66	1	0.44	-0.28	0.00	3.72	50	10.01	62	88	35	0	0	1	0
SC	77	51	85	37	64	3	0.42	-0.43	0.01	4.20	49	10.88	64	84	35	0	0	3	0
SD	61	34	70	23	48	0	0.43	-0.05	0.42	2.35	82	3.17	86	91	36	0	2	2	0
SD	62	37	75	28	49	1	0.58	0.07	0.58	3.09	94	3.73	86	89	37	0	2	1	1
SD	57	35	72	31	46	-1	0.71	0.23	0.32	2.88	116	3.13	93	87	45	0	2	3	0
SD	59	34	72	21	47	-3	0.21	-0.41	0.21	5.37	149	6.00	126	89	38	0	3	1	0
TN	70	44	81	38	57	1	0.04	-0.73	0.04	4.07	64	11.98	92	88	39	0	0	1	0
TN	77	50	84	36	64	3	0.37	-0.58	0.34	6.48	68	20.04	104	95	35	0	0	3	0
TN	74	50	82	39	62	3	0.17	-0.66	0.08	6.13	76	15.65	96	86	38	0	0	3	0
TN	80	58	88	38	69	4	1.14	-0.13	1.14	11.28	115	19.52	109	83	43	0	0	1	1
TX	75	52	83	41	63	2	0.02	-1.00	0.01	5.91	71	17.47	111	79	39	0	0	2	0
TX	82	56	95	40	69	2	0.05	-0.43	0.05	3.62	130	5.55	111	81	29	2	0	1	0
TX	73	44	88	38	58	-1	0.65	0.40	0.65	3.89	233	6.56	236	79	31	0	0	1	1
TX	84	64	89	45	74	3	0.00	-0.67	0.00	4.41	117	4.64	61	89	51	0	0	0	0
TX	81	62	85	43	72	1	0.00	-0.87	0.00	3.61	61	7.83	56	94	59	0	0	0	0
TX	85	69	91	58	77	1	0.00	-0.43	0.00	3.04	182	4.80	112	87	57	1	0	0	0
TX	84	66	88	50	75	1	0.00	-0.46	0.00	2.23	102	3.01	51	90	60	0	0	0	0
TX	90	64	98	50	77	4	1.93	1.42	1.93	4.41	200	4.45	120	85	27	4	0	1	1
TX	85	54	90	41	70	5	0.12	0.06	0.00	0.55	115	0.65	50	32	15	1	0	1	0
TX	81	60	87	38	70	3	0.00	-0.87	0.00	4.65	85	6.57	69	82	47	0	0	0	0
TX	78	68	82	56	73	3	0.01	-0.58	0.00	1.93	47	5.29	55	86	64	0	0	1	0
TX	86	64	91	42	75	5	0.00	-0.80	0.00	4.42	82	7.33	63	88	46	1	0	0	0
TX	80	47	92	35	63	0	0.06	-0.19	0.06	1.28	83	2.63	101	70	21	2	0	1	0
TX	84	54	96	43	69	3	0.05	-0.17	0.05	1.39	117	1.72	78	65	17	4	0	1	0
TX	85	57	96	38	71	3	0.08	-0.36	0.08	2.86	134	3.48	87	84	26	4	0	1	0
TX	84	63	88	42	73	3	0.02	-0.63	0.00	3.69	109	3.78	55	87	49	0	0	1	0
TX	82	63	87	44	72	1	0.00	-0.63	0.00	3.41	103	5.98	80	95	59	0	0	0	0
TX	84	63	88	44	73	5	0.00	-0.80	0.00	4.12	86	6.49	76	88	48	0	0	0	0
TX	79	54	91	39	66	2	0.08	-0.66	0.08	9.43	209	11.99	171	83	48	1	0	1	0
UT	58	42	73	33	50	-1	0.92	0.42	0.43	3.03	84	5.28	88	76	34	0	0	5	0
VT	56	36	61	31	46	-1	0.08	-0.58	0.00	3.19	73	7.83	100	81	33	0	1	1	0
VA	70	41	87	32	55	-2	0.10	-0.62	0.07	4.77	81	11.94	101	91	31	0	1	3	0
VA	71	47	88	41	59	0	0.39	-0.31	0.39	6.50	106	12.35	93	82	38	0	0	1	0
VA	70	43	89	37	57	-2	0.59	-0.10	0.56	6.41	108	12.57	102	92	34	0	0	3	1
VA	69	47	85	42	58	1	0.15	-0.61	0.08	4.91	81	10.75	92	81	34	0	0	3	0
WA	61	37	81	32	49	-5	0.60	-0.14	0.34	6.12	109	14.13	127	94	41	0	1	4	0
WA	61	38	77	34	49	1	0.34	-0.36	0.19	7.70	100	35.46	165	93	38	0	0	2	0
WA	54	34	63	27	44	-3	1.01	-0.59	0.51	18.91	107	60.25	135	10	60	0	3	4	1
WA	58	42	72	39	50	0	0.40	-0.09	0.21	4.76	87	18.55	125	93	47	0	0	3	0
WA	61	38	73	29	50	2	0.15	-0.13	0.08	1.28	52	6.39	108	81	30	0	1	5	0
WA	67	37	81	28	52	1	0.07	-0.04	0.04	0.31	28	3.02	100	82	28	0	2	2	0
WV	62	44	79	35	53	0	0.69	-0.12	0.24	5.89	97	14.19	119	89	40	0	0	5	0
WV	69	45	86	41	57	1	0.70	-0.07	0.27	5.38	86	12.86	105	90	36	0	0	5	0
WV	59	35	80	28	47	-3	1.37	0.49	0.58	7.15	104	15.91	123	93	45	0	3	5	1
WV	70	46	85	41	58	1	0.56	-0.25	0.25	4.71	74	11.76	97	79	33	0	0	4	0
WI	54	37	64	34	46	-2	1.11	0.40	0.75	6.09	157	8.81	158	89	47	0	0	3	1
WI	52	34	57	26	43	-4	2.53	-0.04	0.41	2.33	59	4.81	78	90	47	0	3	3	0
WI	56	38	65	35	47	-3	0.03	1.33	0.84	6.07	143	9.69	159	85	45	0	0	3	2
WI	52	35	58	32	44	-4	3.49	2.80	1.66	7.13	161	10.14	155	95	53	0	3	5	3
WI	48	36	53	30	42	-4	3.09	2.26	1.54	7.80	142	13.16	154	95	59	0	1	5	2
WY	54	35	68	31	44	0	0.88	0.48	0.35	2.84	133	3.37	103	86	44	0	2	4	0
WY	51	35	69	29	43	-1	0.63	0.28	0.38	1.59	77	2.07	73	81	43	0	3	5	0
WY	50	35	69	29	42	-3	3.15	2.63	1.78	5.30	192	6.04	158	81	44	0	4	4	3
WY	55	36	71	33	45	0	1.55	1.11	0.70	3.28	144	3.88	106	89	52	0	0	4	2

NOTE: These data are preliminary and subject to change. In the past, precipitation totals from a number of stations have been incomplete.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 25, 1999

Winter Wheat Percent Headed				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	72	43	70	55
CA	80	60	81	91
CO	1	1	0	0
GA	89	78	63	79
ID	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	1	0
IN	1	0	4	1
KS	1	0	0	1
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	2	1	7	4
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	50	23	33	36
OH	0	0	0	0
OK	35	19	28	28
OR	0	0	0	0
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	38	21	37	36
WA	0	0	0	0
19 Sts	15	9	14	13

These 19 States planted 91% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

Corn Percent Planted				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
CO	9	3	12	14
GA	96	92	81	91
IL	7	6	6	15
IN	5	4	3	9
IA	3	1	3	10
KS	19	9	49	31
KY	43	21	31	32
MI	0	0	4	1
MN	6	0	23	10
MO	28	18	28	32
NE	8	1	10	10
NC	70	50	50	67
OH	9	7	4	11
PA	2	1	7	4
SD	1	0	7	2
TX	62	55	72	67
WI	1	0	3	2
17 Sts	10	6	14	15

These 17 States planted 90% of last year's corn acreage.

Cotton Percent Planted				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	23	21	26	29
AZ	39	23	49	70
AR	4	0	2	6
CA	40	30	23	55
GA	13	6	10	17
LA	18	3	12	15
MS	8	4	5	15
MO	2	2	3	3
NM	33	9	23	35
NC	10	5	9	11
OK	3	2	6	2
SC	15	8	6	14
TN	6	0	3	5
TX	13	11	19	17
14 Sts	14	10	15	19

These 14 States planted 98% of last year's cotton acreage.

Sorghum Percent Planted				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	28	11	45	38
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	0	0	0	0
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	45	12	30	34
MS	31	17	41	47
MO	0	0	2	4
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	0	0	0
OK	1	1	4	4
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	41	39	50	54
12 Sts	17	15	20	22

These 12 States planted 99% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Oats Percent Planted				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
IA	92	85	44	69
MI	73	59	62	35
MN	20	15	50	26
NE	87	74	73	74
ND	3	1	14	4
OH	77	71	71	58
PA	51	34	61	48
SD	38	28	62	31
WI	38	30	41	28
9 Sts	39	32	44	32

These 9 States planted 57% of last year's oat acreage.

Peanuts Percent Planted				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AL	10	6	7	11
FL	15	6	8	NA
GA	7	4	5	16
NC	0	0	3	4
OK	1	0	5	1
SC	22	8	2	16
TX	3	2	1	2
VA	2	0	4	5
8 Sts	6	3	4	9

These 8 States planted 99% of last year's peanut acreage.

Barley Percent Planted				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	41	28	45	51
MN	4	1	26	10
MT	39	20	34	24
ND	3	0	13	5
SD	37	17	61	24
WA	75	50	76	60
6 Sts	26	15	32	23

These 6 States planted 83% of last year's barley acreage.

Spring Wheat Percent Planted				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
ID	59	44	62	67
MN	12	5	29	12
MT	25	18	37	22
ND	7	1	20	6
SD	57	31	65	31
5 Sts	21	11	33	16

These 5 States planted 96% of last year's spring wheat acreage.

Rice Percent Planted				
	Apr 25 1999	Prev Week	Prev Year	5-Yr Avg
AR	33	8	52	46
CA	1	0	0	3
LA	80	70	84	69
MS	63	24	60	65
TX	77	54	81	62
5 Sts	44	24	54	47

These 5 States planted 96% of last year's rice acreage.

(Continued on page 11)

National Agricultural Summary

April 19 - 25, 1999

HIGHLIGHTS

Heavy rains prevented fieldwork and planting in the northern Corn Belt, and lighter rainfall limited progress in other areas of the Corn Belt. In the southern Great Plains, a powerful line of thunderstorms delivered brief heavy downpours that increased soil moisture levels and aided crop development. Hail and isolated flooding associated with the thunderstorms damaged some wheat in Oklahoma. In the Southeast and Atlantic Coastal Plains, continued dry weather aided fieldwork, but discouraged planting and hindered crop emergence.

Warm, windy weather aided planting and field preparations in the lower Mississippi Valley, and dry, sunny weather assisted fieldwork and small grain seeding in the northern Great Plains. Dry soils stressed winter wheat in the Pacific Northwest. In California, warm, dry weather promoted crop development, and field activities rapidly progressed. A slow-moving upper-level low pressure system over the Great Basin produced a mixture of precipitation that replenished topsoil moisture in parts of the central High Plains and Rockies.

Winter Wheat: Fifteen percent of the winter wheat was headed, compared with 14 percent last year and 13 percent normally headed by this date. Maturing fields benefited from warmer weather in the southern Great Plains. Many fields began turning color in Louisiana and Texas, and a few fields were harvested along the western Gulf Coast and inland areas of southern Texas. Rains increased soil moisture levels and aided development in Oklahoma, but flooding and hail damaged some fields. In Kansas, where most of the wheat was in the jointing stage, conditions remained good despite earlier cold weather. A mixture of rain and snow provided additional soil moisture in Colorado and Wyoming. Seasonal temperatures aided development in most of the Corn Belt and northern Great Plains. Dry soils stressed fields in the Pacific Northwest.

weather that dried moist soils in the northern Great Plains. Warm, dry weather also boosted progress in the northern Rocky Mountains and Pacific Northwest.

Other crops: Rice planting rapidly advanced to 44 percent complete, but remained well behind last year's 54 percent pace and slightly behind the 47 percent average. Sorghum planting was 17 percent complete, behind the 20 percent pace last year and the 5-year average of 22 percent. Sorghum and rice planting accelerated in the lower Mississippi Valley, as warm, windy weather rapidly dried wet soils. Peanuts planted doubled to 6 percent complete, slightly ahead of last year, but behind the 5-year average. Progress was hampered by dry soils in the Southeast and Atlantic Coastal Plains.

Corn: Planting advanced to 10 percent, but fell behind last year's pace and the 5-year average due to continued wet conditions in the Corn Belt. Heavy rains prevented most field preparations and planting across the northern Corn Belt. In most other areas of the Corn Belt, lighter rainfall extended muddy field conditions and hindered efforts to prepare and plant fields. Along the Ohio and middle Mississippi Valleys in the southern Corn Belt, drier conditions prevailed and planting accelerated. Drier weather aided planting in the central Great Plains and along the western edge of the Corn Belt, but progress remained behind normal. Dry soils discouraged planting and hindered emergence and growth in the Atlantic Coastal Plains. Planting steadily progressed in the Texas High Plains and growth improved following a brief period of near-freezing temperatures. Warmer weather also aided development in central Texas and along the western Gulf Coast, where fields were entering the reproductive stage.

Cotton: Fourteen percent of the Nation's cotton acreage was planted, up 4 percentage points from last week, but slightly behind last year's 15 percent and the 19 percent average for this date. Dry conditions aided field preparations in most areas from Texas to the Atlantic Coastal Plains. Planting steadily progressed along the Atlantic Coastal Plains despite excessively dry soils that hindered germination. In parts of the Southeast, dryness curtailed most planting activity. In a few areas of the Mississippi Delta, field conditions were nearly ideal for planting, but soil moisture levels rapidly declined due to hot, windy weather.

Small grains: Oat planting, at 39 percent, was 1 week ahead of the 5-year average, but behind the pace of a year ago. Rain limited planting across northern areas of the Corn Belt, while dry weather aided progress in the northern Great Plains. Spring wheat was 21 percent planted and barley planting advanced to 26 percent. Seeding of both small grains was behind last year's rapid pace, but slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Progress was aided by warm, sunny

(Continued from page 10)

Winter Wheat Crop Condition by Percent					
	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	0	2	14	54	30
CA	0	0	10	85	5
CO	4	8	19	47	22
GA	7	23	34	34	2
ID	0	1	11	67	21
IL	0	3	20	65	12
IN	0	3	16	59	22
KS	1	4	21	54	20
MI	0	1	14	48	37
MO	1	6	35	49	9
MT	3	5	47	43	2
NE	1	1	18	73	7
NC	0	2	24	66	8
OH	0	1	11	57	31
OK	0	1	15	75	9
OR	3	15	39	40	3
SD	0	1	13	64	22
TX	6	14	36	37	7
WA	3	7	43	45	2
19 Sts	2	5	24	55	14
Prev Wk	2	5	24	56	13
Prev Yr	1	4	20	57	18

VP - Very Poor; P - Poor; F - Fair; G - Good; EX Excellent

State Agricultural Summaries

These summaries, issued weekly through the summer growing season, provide brief descriptions of crop and weather conditions important on a national scale. More detailed data are available in *Weather and Crop Bulletins* published each Monday by NASS State Statistical Offices in cooperation with the National Weather Service. The crop weather reports are also available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> or from JAWF at <http://www.usda.gov/oc/waob/jawf>.

ALABAMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Topsoil 16% very short, 54% short, 28% adequate, 2% surplus. Light scattered rainfall fell around most of the State. Dry conditions limited planting in southern, central portions of the State. Corn planted 78%, 78% 1998, 77% avg.; emerged 57%. Cotton planted 23%, 26% 1998, 29% avg. Soybeans planted 5%, 5% 1998, 2% avg. Peanuts planted 10%, 7% 1998, 11% avg. Wheat headed 61%, 62% 1998, 60% avg.; 1% very poor, 5% poor, 12% fair, 75% good, 7% excellent. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 14% poor, 33% fair, 44% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 1% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 53% good, 18% excellent. Peaches progressed well except for the highest chill varieties. Hay cutting began. Strawberry harvest continued under full swing.

ARIZONA: Cotton planting is still behind schedule. As of April 25, 39% of the cotton was planted, 49% 1998, 70% avg. Small grains heading continued to progress last week. As of April 25, 91% of the durum wheat, 98% of other wheat, 94% of the barley, 90% of the other small grains had headed. Alfalfa harvest activity was reported as 57% not being harvested, 2% light, 12% moderate, 29% active. Some fields are being green chopped. Alfalfa 4% poor, 21% fair, 66% good, 9% excellent. Range, pasture feed held steady last week. Condition 7% very poor, 25% poor, 52% fair, 16% good. Central area producers shipped artichokes, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cilantro, dandelion, dill, green onions, kale, leeks, mixed greens, parsley, potatoes, radicchio, spinach, strawberries, Swiss chard last week. Lettuce shipments included head lettuce, leaf lettuce, romaine. Eastern area producers shipped greenhouse tomatoes. Western producers harvested anise, broccoflower, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, salad savoy, spinach, Swiss chard. Lettuce shipments included Boston, head, leaf, romaine. Central, western area citrus shipments included grapefruit, lemons, Valencia oranges last week.

ARKANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 6% short, 79% adequate, 15% surplus. Temperatures were above normal for the week with no rainfall during most of the week and ended with rainfall on 23rd night, 24th bringing cooler temperatures. Cotton 4% planted, Rice 33% planted, Soybeans 5% planted, Corn 77% planted, Sorghum 28% planted, Wheat 72% headed, Oats 70% headed. Livestock are reported in good condition. Producers are continuing to sell cattle off wheat pasture. Main farm activities: Planting of rice, corn, cotton, soybeans, sorghum, fertilizing wheat. Other activities: Pruning and staking of tomatoes, cultivating watermelons, planting green beans, scouting wheat fields for armyworms, septoria, and rust, spraying of pastures for weeds, spraying of peach orchards, other fruit trees for diseases, cleaning poultry houses.

CALIFORNIA: Fieldwork progressed normally in most areas, although strong winds slowed seedbed preparations for planting rice in the Sacramento Valley. Most small grain fields survived the windy conditions with minimal lodging reported. Wheat heads continued to develop in the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Durum wheat harvest was underway in the Imperial Valley. Corn planting was active in most growing areas, some corn fields were treated for weeds. Cotton planting was in full swing in the San Joaquin Valley, was virtually complete in the Sacramento Valley. Some earlier seeded fields were re-seeded due to poor germination caused by cool soil temperatures. Imperial Valley cotton growth was slowed by cool temperatures. Old crop sugar beets were harvested in the Sacramento, Imperial valleys. New crop fields were growing rapidly in most areas. Ground preparation, cultivation and flooding of rice fields continued in the Sacramento Valley. A few early rice fields were planted in Glenn, Yuba counties. Cool temperatures in the coastal valleys slowed the growth of alfalfa hay, some growers were two cuttings behind normal. Seed alfalfa was mowed in the central San Joaquin Valley. Alfalfa, small grains, winter forages were cut for hay or green chopped. Vineyard, orchard cultural activities included extensive weed control, irrigation. Stone fruit thinning was active. Almond growers were applying fungicides, miticides. A large nut set was causing some limb stress. Some growers were worried that the recent freeze damage to almonds may increase the rate of nut drop. Pistachio, pecan trees were showing bloom. Olive tree bloom was developing. Fig, walnut trees were leafing. Citrus was picked in southern areas. Strawberry picking in the central valley began, growers observed freeze damage in several fields attributable to early month low nighttime temperatures. Vegetable crops damaged by frost two weeks ago were replanted in some areas of the San Joaquin, Sacramento valleys. Processing tomato, pepper transplants continued to be set. Lettuce harvest continued, but was starting to wind down in some areas. Onions, garlic were making good progress. Harvest of sweet corn, onions, carrots began in the Imperial Valley. Melon development has been significantly delayed by early April's cool temperatures. Other crops harvested this week were asparagus, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, spinach, turnips,

potatoes, various greens. Rangeland pastures were in fair to good condition in central, northern areas. Strong north winds late in the period caused pastures to mature rapidly in some areas. Feeder cattle were beginning to be shipped in the south-central area. Most lambs have been shipped from the foothill pastures of central areas. Overall condition of livestock was good; however, weight gains were below normal in many areas. Sheep from the southern desert were being moved to pastures in central, northern areas. Beehives were being moved to citrus, apple orchards.

COLORADO: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.6. Topsoil moisture 4% very short, 19% short, 57% adequate, 20% surplus. Subsoil moisture 7% very short, 25% short, 63% adequate, 5% surplus. Rain and snow showers continued along the Front Range and locally heavy rains extended into the Eastern Plains. While the moisture was needed for the winter wheat crop, the wet weather has slowed field activities and planting of later season row crops. Winter wheat 59% jointed, 37% 1998, 26% avg. Spring wheat 55% planted, 41% 1998, 40% avg; 48% emerged, 24% 1998, 18% avg. Spring barley 72% seeded, 67% 1998, 61% avg; 29% emerged, 29% 1998, 28% avg. Oats 83% seeded, 49% 1998, 52% avg; 42% emerged, 28% 1998, 29% avg. Dry onions 98% planted, 88% 1998, 84% avg; condition 12% very poor, 11% poor, 33% fair, 39% good, 5% excellent. Sugar beets 84% planted, 72% 1998, 85% avg. Summer potatoes 68% planted, 61% 1998, 67% avg; 5% emerged, 0% 1998, 0% avg. Livestock in mostly fair to good condition.

DELAWARE: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.3. Topsoil 92% adequate, 8% surplus. Subsoil 83% adequate, 17% surplus. Winter wheat 15% fair, 77% good, 8% excellent; 10% headed, 13% 1998, 4% avg. Barley 17% fair, 72% good, 11% excellent; 60% headed, 71% 1998, 35% avg. Field corn 25% planted, 18% 1998, 14% avg. Sweet corn 22% planted, 16% 1998, 15% avg. Snap beans 18% planted, 12% 1998, 3% avg. Potatoes 74% planted, 86% 1998, 69% avg. Green peas 79% planted, 79% 1998, 73% avg. Tomatoes 15% planted, 9% 1998, 2% avg. Apples 55% bloomed, 88% 1998, 45% avg. Strawberries 35% bloomed, 62% 1998, 41% avg. Hay supplies 17% short, 83% adequate. Pasture feed 3% poor, 9% fair, 60% good, 28% excellent. Activities: Lots of field preparation work, applying pre-plant herbicides, litter, planting of peas, sweet corn, asparagus being harvested.

FLORIDA: Topsoil moisture throughout State very short with scattered areas short moisture. It was slightly cooler during first part of week, then warm, dry weather continued for week of April 18th to 25th. Most stations reported less than an inch rain during week. All areas were well below normal for season. Wild fires were reported some areas with possibility increasing for more fires due to lack of rain. Temperatures averaged high 60s, low 70s. Maximum temperatures were mostly upper 80s, low 90s. Low temperatures were mostly 40s, 50s. Tobacco stressed by hot, dry weather. Cotton, peanut planting only where irrigation available. Spring planted crop land preparations active. Sugarcane harvest complete. Hay growth being delayed by hot, dry weather. Peanuts planted reported at 15%. Dry weather continues to increase the need for irrigation all vegetable areas. Hot weather lowering quality of some crops. Some tomato growers not making third picks due to low market. Major vegetables shipped: Snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, okra, parsley, peppers, pickles, radishes, squash, tomatoes, watermelons. Hot, dry all citrus areas, growers using all types of irrigation, some wilt, leaf loss. A little rain 25th. Some fruit softening, bloom continues in some groves. Some trees have had complete petal drop. Valencia harvest active all areas. Most grapefruit coming from the east coast. Temple, Honey tangerine harvest almost over for this season. Caretakers cutting cover crops, spraying, irrigating. Pasture feed very poor 15%, poor 30%, fair 55%. Cattle poor 10%, fair 70%, good 20%. Most of the State's pasture in poor to fair condition due to drought, high temperatures. Hay growth delayed due to dry conditions. Panhandle; pasture becoming limited. Forage supplies being depleted. North; pasture grass stressed, pastures, hayfields green but not growing. Scattered frost early in week also set back some pastures. West Central; Cattle weight dropping, pastures deteriorated, watering holes drying up. Southwest; pasture condition generally poor, but some low lying areas still in good shape; there were lots of fires, smoke. Statewide, condition of cattle, calves mostly fair.

GEORGIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.2. Soil moisture 41% very short, 42% short, 17% adequate. Corn 7% very poor, 18% poor, 39% fair, 35% good, 1% excellent; 92% emerged, 68% 1998, NA avg. Cotton 10% very poor, 17% poor, 39% fair, 31% good, 3% excellent. Hay 10% very poor, 22% poor, 42% fair, 25% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 10% very poor, 8% poor, 47% fair, 34% good, 1% excellent. Sorghum 5% very poor, 23% poor, 56%

fair, 16% good; 19% planted, 5% 1998, 13% avg. Soybeans 3% planted, 0% 1998, 1% avg. Tobacco 4% very poor, 15% poor, 43% fair, 35% good, 3% excellent; 97% transplanted, 70% 1998, 91% avg. Wheat 96% boot, 81% 1998, 93% avg. Onions 3% very poor, 10% good, 16% fair, 69% good, 2% excellent; 21% harvested, 9% 1998, 16% avg. Watermelons 3% very poor, 12% poor, 41% fair, 38% good, 6% excellent; 88% planted, 82% 1998, 89% avg. Apples 13% poor, 25% fair, 59% good, 3% excellent; 73% blooming, 63% 1998, 90% avg. Peaches 16% very poor, 14% poor, 17% fair, 25% good, 28% excellent. Pasture feed 10% very poor, 24% poor, 40% fair, 24% good, 2% excellent. Dry weather slowed planting in many counties, caused planting to cease in some counties. Dry soil moisture contributed to the decreased condition in many crops last week. Corn planting continued ahead of 1998, average. Condition decreased as 25% of the crop is rated poor or very poor compared with 12% last week. Wheat condition decreased as well. Booting, heading continued ahead of the five year average pace. Sorghum condition also decreased, but planting continued ahead of 1998. Cotton planting lagged behind the five year average pace. Condition decreased as 27% of the crop was rated poor or very poor compared with 14% the previous week. Peanut planting remained behind the five year average. Onion harvest started in earnest last week ahead of 1998, average pace. Onion condition increased. Watermelon planting progressed at the five year average pace. Condition decreased as 15% of the crop was rated poor or very poor compared with 5% previous week. Soybean planting started, 3% of the crop was reported to be planted. Other activities included irrigating tobacco, vegetables as well as routine care of livestock.

HAWAII: Most crops made fair to good growth. Favorable mixture of sunshine, showers throughout State. Lighter winds increased effectiveness of spray programs. Banana harvesting steady; field in mostly good condition. Papaya harvesting steady. Field conditions ranged from good to poor depending on presence of disease. Head cabbage plantings in generally good condition. Harvesting steady, good size, quality. Cucumber harvesting forecast to increase; overall crop condition was fair to good. Ginger root activities back on track after a slowdown last week due to rainy weather.

IDAHO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.7. Topsoil 7% short, 72% adequate, 21% surplus. Above normal temperatures, tremendous planting progress in southwestern, south central areas. Calving is 98% complete, lambing 97%. Hay, roughage supplies were reported to be 8% short, 53% adequate, 39% surplus. Irrigation supply 69% excellent, 31% good. Dry peas planted 35%, 1998 37% avg. 28%; emerged 12%, 1998 14%, avg. 11%. Onions planted 100%, 1998 94%, avg. 96%; emerged 59%, 1998 37%, avg. 50%. Oats planted 31%, 1998 38%, avg. 38%; emerged 6%, 1998 17%, avg. 15%. Lentils planted 8%, 1998 19%, avg. 17%. Corn planted 14%, 1998 10%, avg. 7%. Potatoes planted 22%, 1998 15%, avg. 18%. Barley emerged 19%, 1998 18%, avg. 23%; jointed 1%. Spring wheat emerged 27%, 1998 28%, avg. 34%. Sugar beets planted 71%, 1998 78%, avg. 86%; emerged 8%, 1998 20%, avg. 27%. Winter wheat jointed 19%. Activities: Planting small grains, potatoes, onions, dry peas, sugar beets, corn, field preparation, hauling, shipping seed potatoes, fencing, moving livestock to early pasture.

ILLINOIS: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.7. Topsoil 1% short, 39% adequate, 60% surplus. Across the State, rain and below normal temperatures halted nearly all fieldwork last week. Farmers continued planting corn and oats and barely began planting soybeans. Early planting and adequate soil temperatures have led to the emergence of the corn. Those that have not started planting corn have been preparing equipment, are ready to go when the fields dry. Other activities for last week include hauling grain and manure. Oats planted 93%, 66% 1998, 80% avg. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 1% poor, 16% fair, 68% good, 14% excellent.

INDIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.2. Topsoil 2% short, 45% adequate, 53% surplus. Subsoil 5% short, 62% adequate, 33% surplus. Corn planted 5%, 3% 1998, 9% avg. Soybean planted 2%, 1% 1998. Winter wheat 78% jointed, 84% 1998, 48% avg.; 81% good to excellent. Rain, wet soil conditions hindered field activities in most areas. Some fieldwork occurred in southern part of the State. Ponding present in some fields. Over 2 inches of rain, many areas. Pastures, forage crops improving. Range, pasture feed 3% poor, 21% fair, 62% good, 14% excellent. Hay supplies mostly adequate. Feedlots muddy. Activities: Tilling soils, spreading fertilizer, pesticides, anhydrous ammonia, picking up seed, hauling manure, moving grain, calving, lambing, preparing equipment, feeding, caring for livestock.

IOWA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.5. Moisture excessive in some areas. Topsoil short 1%, adequate 41%, surplus 58%. Subsoil short 2%, adequate 63%, surplus 35%. Cool temperatures, scattered showers. Corn planted 3%, 1998 3%, avg. 10%. Oats planted 92%, 98 44%, avg. 69%; emerged 62%, 98 5%, avg. 22%. Winter wheat poor 1%, fair 19%, good 64%, excellent 16%. Fertilizer applied (including fall applications) 82% complete. Seedbed preparation (including fall preparation) 80% complete. Some calf losses, scours, respiratory problems reported. Range, pasture feed very poor 1%, poor 3%, fair 21%, good 57%, excellent 18%.

KANSAS: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.1. Topsoil 2% short, 60% adequate, 38% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 75% adequate, 22% surplus. Winter wheat crop remained in mostly good to excellent condition. It is still too early to determine how much damage, in any, was done to the winter wheat crop due to last weeks freeze. Wheat jointing 87%, 85% 1998, 75% avg. Wheat wind damage 1% severe, 1% moderate, 9% light, 89% no damage. Spring oats seeding 99%, 97% 1998, 99% avg. Alfalfa weevils continue to be active across the State, with a few reports of aphids. Insect infestation 4% severe, 11% moderate, 13% light, 72% with no infestation. Disease infestation remains minimal, with a few reports of wheat streak mosaic, barley yellow dwarf, soil borne mosaic, spindle streak mosaic. Rain once again slowed fieldwork. Major field activities, when dry enough, were planting corn, seedbed preparation, applying fertilizer, herbicides, planting corn, spraying for alfalfa weevils. Pasture feed 3% very poor, 3% poor, 19% fair, 65% good, 10% excellent. Currently, 60% of the roughage requirements for cattle are coming from pasture. Cattle continue to be moved to pastures.

KENTUCKY: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.8. Topsoil 1% very short, 19% short, 73% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 3% very short, 15% short, 76% adequate, 6% surplus. Temperatures 11° warmer than the previous week and rainfall for the week was below normal. Tobacco plant size in the bed was 67% less than 2 in., 26% 2 to 4 in., 7% larger than 4 in. About 26% of the tobacco plants will come from conventional beds while 74% will come from floatbeds, greenhouses. Winter wheat condition 3% poor, 14% fair, 57% good, 26% excellent. About 20% of the winter wheat crop has headed or is heading. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 4% poor, 35% fair, 47% good, 13% excellent. Alfalfa harvest is expected to start about May 10.

LOUISIANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Soil moisture 17% very short, 40% short, 41% adequate, 2% surplus. Corn 1% very poor, 10% poor, 27% fair, 60% good, 2% excellent; 94% emerged, 98% 1998, 94% avg. Cotton 3% emerged, 2% 1998, 6% avg. Hay 25% first cutting, 10% 1998, 8% avg. Rice 66% emerged, 66% 1998, 54% avg. Young rice suffered from wind damage. Sorghum 12% emerged, 15% 1998, 21% avg. Sorghum growers have begun to plant. Soybeans 7% planted, 12% 1998, 6% avg. Soybeans were planted. Spring plowing 86% plowing, 93% 1998, 85% avg. Sugarcane 2% poor, 31% fair, 48% good, 19% excellent. Sweet potatoes 2% planted, 2% 1998, 2% avg. Wheat 1% poor 20% fair, 71% good, 8% excellent; 98% headed, 99% 1998, 91% avg.; 45% turning color, 34% 1998, 16% avg. Livestock 3% poor, 29% fair, 57% good, 11% excellent. Vegetables 1% very poor, 5% poor, 34% fair, 54% good, 6% excellent. Pastures feed 2% very poor, 12% poor, 38% fair, 42% good, 6% excellent. Lack of rain has begun to stress pasture conditions.

MARYLAND: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.2. Subsoil 2% very short, 2% short, 90% adequate, 6% surplus. Topsoil 1% very short, 3% short, 86% adequate, 10% surplus. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 3% poor, 17% fair, 62% good, 17% excellent; 8% headed, 15% 1998, 5% avg. Barley 3% poor, 19% fair, 59% good, 19% excellent; 50% headed, 75% 1998, 33% avg. Rye 2% poor, 16% fair, 62% good, 20% excellent; 28% headed, 46% 1998, 24% avg. Field corn 12% planted, 20% 1998, 15% avg. Sweet corn 28% planted, 23% 1998, 21% avg. Snap beans 10% planted, 6% 1998, 9% avg. Green peas 94% planted, 77% 1998, 68% avg. Tomatoes 13% planted, 36% 1998, 24% avg. Cantaloupes 20% planted, 9% 1998, 12% avg. Watermelons 16% planted, 8% 1998, 7% avg. Peaches 90% bloomed, 99% 1998, 65% avg. Apples 40% bloomed, 78% 1998, 42% avg. Strawberries 40% bloomed, 55% 1998, 42% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 2% poor, 15% fair, 67% good, 15% excellent. Hay supplies 3% very short, 21% short, 74% adequate, 2% surplus. Activities: Fields are drying out allowing more field preparations. Corn planting in full swing on the eastern shore.

MICHIGAN: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.0. Topsoil 4% very short, 4% short, 55% adequate, 37% surplus. Subsoil moisture 6% very short, 23% short, 56% adequate, 15% surplus. Barley planted 75%. Temperatures generally 2 to 5 degrees below normal for the week with morning temperatures falling below freezing at the end of the week. Just as fields in the lower peninsula were drying from precipitation the previous week, heavy rains arrived on Thursday. The heaviest rain fell in the southern half of the Lower Peninsula where rainfall ranged from 1 to over 4 inches. In contrast, the Upper Peninsula the northern half of the Lower Peninsula have remained dry the past two weeks. Where weather permitted, oat, barley, alfalfa, clover planting continued. Rain has prevented early corn planting in the southern part of the State. The recent rains combined with earlier warm temperatures have encouraged rapid weed growth. Sugar beet planting was put on hold after reaching 50% to 60% completion. Cool temperatures slowed the emergence of asparagus and frost killed already emerged tips. Strawberry growers irrigated Sunday morning to prevent freeze damage. Some carrots were planted. Cabbage was in good condition. Although some peach orchards may have been hurt by the cold weather, cherries were expected to still have full crop potential.

MINNESOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 1.8. Topsoil 1% short, 62% adequate, 37% surplus. Spring wheat 12% planted 29% 1998, 12% avg.; 2% emerged, 0% 1998, 1% avg. Oats 20% planted, 50% 1998, 26% avg.; 6% emerged, 4% 1998, 4% avg. Barley 4% planted, 26% 1998, 10% avg.; 1% emerged, 0% 1998, 0% avg. Corn 17% ground prepared, 45% 1998, 22% avg.; 6% planted, 23% 1998, 10% avg. Soybeans 2% ground prepared, 10% 1998, 4% avg. Potatoes 17% planted, 21% 1998, 9% avg. Sugar beets 18% planted, 48% 1998, 14% avg. Sweet corn 2% planted, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Green peas 13% planted, 29% 1998, 15% avg. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 5% poor, 40% fair, 51% good, 3% excellent. Alfalfa 1% very poor, 3% poor, 35% fair, 53% good, 8% excellent. Rye 1% very poor, 2% poor, 44% fair, 51% good, 2% excellent. Pasture feed 4% very poor, 7% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, 6% excellent. Rainy, cool conditions during the past week slowed field activities.

MISSISSIPPI: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.0. Soil moisture 4% very short, 21% short, 59% adequate, 16% surplus. Corn 91% planted, 81% 1998, 87% avg; 60% emerged, 66% 1998, 67% avg.; 2% very poor 5% poor, 31% fair, 59% good, 3% excellent. Cotton 8% planted, 5% 1998, 15% avg.; 3% emerged, 1% 1998, 1% avg. Rice 63% planted, 60% 1998, 65% avg.; 14% emerged, 17% 1998, 28% avg.; 1% very poor, 4% poor, 47% fair, 46% good, 2% excellent. Sorghum 31% planted, 41% 1998, 47% avg.; 12% emerged, 23% 1998, 26% avg.; 1% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 77% good, 3% excellent. Soybeans 18% planted, 20% 1998, 19% avg.; 4% emerged, 9% 1998, 4% avg. Watermelons 65% planted, 29% 1998, 59% avg.; 45% fair, 50% good, 5% excellent. Wheat 98% jointing, 90% 1998, 97% avg.; 89% heading, 59% 1998, 68% avg.; 1% very poor, 2% poor, 41% fair, 51% good, 5% excellent. Blueberries 8% very poor, 3% poor, 42% fair, 41% good, 6% excellent. Cattle 3% poor, 19% fair, 64% good, 14% excellent. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 5% poor, 38% fair, 48% good, 8% excellent. Wind, warm temperatures have dried out fields increased the number of days suitable for fieldwork.

MISSOURI: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.1. Topsoil 1% short, 49% adequate, 50% surplus. Scattered frost and rains in the northern two-thirds of the state had farmers waiting for warmer, drier weather. Corn 28% planted. Cotton 2% planted. 6% of winter wheat in Botheel has begun heading, 2% in southwest, 1% in central, south-central, all other districts zero, 2% statewide. Sorghum planting not begun. Winter wheat 1% very poor, 6% poor, 35% fair, 49% good, 9% excellent. Ground worked at least once for spring crops 58%. Pasture feed 3% poor, 24% fair, 59% good, 14% excellent. Precipitation for week ending April 25, 1999 avg. 1.14 in.

MONTANA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Many areas of the State received much needed precipitation last week which prevented some producers from getting into their fields. However, good progress was made in the seeding of crops. Fieldwork in progress 17% none, 38% just started, 45% well underway. At the end of the week, topsoil 8% very short, 22% short, 63% adequate, 7% surplus. Subsoil 8% very short, 29% short, 57% adequate, 6% surplus. Sugar beets planted 40%, 74% 1998, 39% avg. Sugar beets emerged 2%, 21% 1998, 8% avg. Oats planted 14%, 20% 1998, 13% avg.; emerged 1%, 3% 1998, 1% avg. Corn planted 13%, 9% 1998, 7% avg.; emerged 3%, 2% 1998, 0% avg. Potatoes planted 1%, 7% 1998, 2% avg. Mild temperatures have resulted in livestock being in good condition as feed supplies remain adequate. Calving, lambing is making good progress as few problems have occurred, death losses are down. Calving completed 85%, 88% 1998, 89% avg. Lambing completed 65%, 75% 1998, 73% avg. Cattle, calves being moved to summer ranges 21%, 18% 1998, 9% avg. Sheep, lambs being moved to summer ranges 18%, 15% 1998, 6% avg.

NEBRASKA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.9. Topsoil 2% short, 85% adequate, 13% surplus. Subsoil 7% short, 86% adequate, 7% surplus. Temperatures 2° below normals. Rains continued to delay fieldwork for third week in a row. Significant amounts of moisture were received in western counties increasing wheat prospects. Wheat 1% very poor, 1% poor, 18% fair, 73% good, 7% excellent. Wheat jointed 31% ahead of 13% 1998, 12% avg. Corn 8% planted, 10% 1998, 10% avg. Planting to be in full swing, if soil conditions permit. Oats 87% seeded, 73% 1998, 74% avg.; 56% emerged, 23% 1998. Alfalfa weevil activity was increasing, army cutworms were still holding back alfalfa growth in some areas. Calving 90% complete, compared with 92% 1998. Reporters indicated the recent cool, wet conditions were stressing young calves. Pasture, range feed 2% poor, 21% fair, 65% good, 12% excellent. Producer activities; Fence fixing, hauling grain, ordering supplies for field crops, applying fertilizer, herbicide, moving cattle to summer pasture.

NEVADA: Temperatures varied greatly throughout the week. Temperatures well above normal were recorded early in the week. Later in the week, cooler temperatures occurred with near freezing temperatures in the northern portion of the State. The central and eastern portions of the State received some precipitation. Cooler temperatures have slowed range and forage growth. Weather did not slow potato planting, which has commenced. Herbicide,

fertilizer application has continued. Calving is nearing completion, while branding, vaccinating has continued. Shearing still has continued while lambing is nearing completion. Movement of livestock to spring pasture has begun. Main farm and ranch activities: Irrigation, spraying, cleaning ditches, planting, some field preparation, branding, vaccinating, calving, lambing, shearing, movement of livestock to spring pasture.

NEW ENGLAND: Much needed rain fell in the region. Potato planting continued in southern parts of the region. Sweet corn was being sown under plastic in southern most States. Farmers tending livestock, assisting spring calving, performing general maintenance. Fruit growers pruning trees. Manure spreading by dairy farmers continues. Garden centers selling spring plants.

NEW JERSEY: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Soil preparation activities for field crops continues. Temperatures much below normal. Extremes 78° at Hammonton, Downstown on the 23rd; 28° Charlotteburg on 20th. Rainfall 0.87 in. north, 0.57 in. central, 0.49 in. south. The heaviest 24 hour total was 0.53 in. at Flemington on the 23rd to the 24th. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 95% north, 84% central, 65% south. Four inch soil temperatures 47° north, 48° central, 51° south. Potato planting is nearing completion in the South. Spring planting of the cabbage, lettuce, spinach crops is virtually complete in the South. Spinach, asparagus harvesting continues in the south. Sweet corn planting continues with much of it still under plastic. Current tomato plantings are either under plastic or in tunnels. Open field tomatoes are still vulnerable to frost damage. Peach trees are in full bloom in all areas of the State with some petal fall reported in the central, south. No damage to the peach crop is expected from the frost during the week. Most apple trees are in tight cluster in the north while blooming is being reported in the south. Strawberry plants are blooming, most of which are under plastic.

NEW MEXICO: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. A slow moving winter storm brought rapid cooling the middle to end of last week. Precipitation fell everywhere except the southwest, with the greatest precipitation totaling 2.40 in. Clovis. Across the State strong winds continued cause light damage to emerging crops. North producers again reported light to moderate freeze damage to their fruit crops. Across the State farmers continued with spring planting, field preparations, irrigating, fertilizing, while ranchers were calving, branding, continuing with supplemental feeding. Corn planting continued, with 24% in the ground by the end of the week. With wheat harvest about 2 months away producers reported that the crop is beginning to head. As temperature warmed up in the southwest producers were rapidly planting cotton. In southern areas 90% of the chile crop was planted, as lettuce producers prepared for harvest, 1st cutting of alfalfa began. Recent precipitation fought the drying effect of the strong spring winds. Range, pasture feed condition rating remained constant as the topsoil moisture rating improved slightly. Cattle and sheep were in fair to good condition.

NEW YORK: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.7. Soil moisture 33% short, 61% adequate, 6% surplus. Pasture feed 19% poor, 47% fair, 34% good. Oats 36% seeded, 39% 1998, 22% average. Wheat 78% good, 22% excellent. Fields prepared for corn planting which is expected to begin next week. New hay seedings were up and look good. Early planted onions in Orange county were emerging. Sweet corn, lettuce was planted. Fields were prepared for cabbage plantings. Finger Lakes apples were at green tip, half inch green to pink. Fruit around Lake Ontario overwintered well. Concern with fireblight prevention after last year's wind, hail damage. Lack of snow, rain allowed early access to orchards. Long Island grape growers looking for budbreak to occur in early May. Grape growers busy with trellis repair work. Pasture development behind 1998. Feed supplies good, weather comfortable for stock.

NORTH CAROLINA: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.4. Soil moisture 7% very short, 47% short, 45% adequate, 1% surplus. Great week for field preparation, planting as virtually no rain was reported across the State. Typical spring temperatures along with sunny, windy weather prevailed throughout the week. Soil moisture levels continue to trend toward short with over half the State indicating less than adequate moisture levels. Presently, Major progress was made in corn planting again this week as percent planted rose to 70%, with half of that emerged. Flue-cured tobacco settings are progressing nicely, twice the level from a week ago. Small grains are still mostly in good condition, percent wheat headed more than doubled from last week to 50%. Several areas report incidences of Cereal Leaf Blight in wheat. Field preparation for all crops were among the major activities this week, a good soaking rain would be appreciated in almost all areas. Harvesting of small grain green chop or silage began this week along with first cuttings of hay. Other activities included fertilizing, preparing planting equipment, applying pesticides (pre and post emergence), tending livestock, pasture maintenance.

NORTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5. Topsoil 4% short, 86% adequate, 10% surplus. Subsoil 3% short, 86% adequate, 11% surplus. Planting of small grains, sugar beets progressed through the majority of the

week as a result of mild weather. Calving is nearing completion, with the majority of calves in good condition. Statewide average starting date for fieldwork is expected to be April 22. This compares to April 18, 1998, average of April 26. Spring wheat was 7% planted, compared to 20% 1998, 6% avg. Durum wheat was 1% complete compared to 3% and 1%. Oat seeding was 3% completed and barley was also 3% completed. Sugarbeets were 9% planted, 42% last year, 14% avg. Livestock were mostly in good condition as calving and lambing seasons near completion. Eighty-eight percent of the sheep and 90% of cattle received supplemental feed. Calving was 84% complete, up 8% from last week. Lambing was 84% complete and shearing 87% complete. Cattle 1% poor, 12% fair, 80% good, 7% excellent; calf 1% poor, 12% fair, 80% good, 7% excellent; sheep 1% poor, 9% fair, 81% good, 9% excellent; lamb 9% fair, 81% good, 10% excellent. Grain, concentrates 1% very short, 2% short, 89% adequate, 8% surplus. Fifty-eight percent of the pastures were still dormant but 71% were open for grazing. Pasture feed 5% very poor, 11% poor, 30% fair, 48% good, 6% excellent.

OHIO: Days suitable for fieldwork 0.9 days. Topsoil 3% short, 46% adequate, 51% surplus. Corn 9% planted, 4% 1998, 11% avg. Soybeans 5% planted, 2% 1998, 3% avg. Winter wheat jointed 49% complete, 62% 1998, 26% avg. Oats 77% planted, 71% 1998, 58% avg. Oats 59% emerged, 37% 1998, 25% avg. Tobacco beds 99% seeded, 93% 1998. Tobacco beds having plants up 68%, 66% 1998. Potatoes 45% planted, 22% 1998, 16% avg. Pasture feed 3% poor, 21% fair, 57% good, 19% excellent. Winter wheat 1% poor, 11% fair, 57% good, 31% excellent. Sugar beets are 60% planted, twenty-two days ahead of 1998, two weeks ahead of the five year average. Apples, peaches are 91 and 92% in green tip, respectively. Peaches in full bloom are 53% complete. High soil moisture content, rain stalled most fieldwork throughout the State. Activities were limited to picking up supplies; repairing machinery, equipment; hauling manure; top dressing wheat; spreading fertilizer, lime, pre-emergence herbicides; hauling last year's grain; scouting fields for weeds; removing brush; building grain bins; fixing fences; attending auctions. Producers in the south were planting sweet corn, tomatoes, other vegetables. Reporters rate pasture, grass conditions as mostly good to excellent although cold weather has reportedly slowed growth. Some fields have been slow to recover from winter trampling. Warm weather following the recent rain is needed to accelerate growth, replenish trampled pastures. Livestock conditions are mostly good as producers are still busy with calving, some lambing. Some livestock were confined indoors due to wet pastures. Most reporters rate conditions as very good especially where intensively managed grazing is used.

OKLAHOMA: Days suitable for fieldwork 4.5. Subsoil 4% very short, 9% short, 76% adequate, 11% surplus. Topsoil 1% very short, 8% short, 66% adequate, 25% surplus. Weekend thunderstorms boost moisture supplies northern two-thirds of state, southern counties remain dry. Wheat 99% jointing, 99% 1998, 94% avg. Oats 83% jointing, 74% 1998, 62% avg.; 35% heading, 36% 1998, 19% avg. Corn 98% seedbed prepared, 97% 1998, 97% avg.; 70% planted, 54% 1998, 39% avg.; 9% up-to-stand, 16% 1998, 17% avg. Sorghum 55% seedbed prepared, 27% 1998, 37% avg. Soybeans 55% seedbed prepared, 56% 1998, 58% avg.; 11% planted, 14% 1998, 14% avg. Peanuts 67% seedbed prepared, 64% 1998, 61% avg. Cotton 83% seedbed prepared, 75% 1998, 68% avg. Alfalfa hay 12% 1st cutting, 22% 1998, 12% avg. Other hay 8% 1st cutting, 4% 1998, 9% avg. Pastures feed 1% very poor, 8% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, 6% excellent. Livestock 3% poor, 19% fair, 71% good, 7% excellent. Feeder cattle prices down \$2 per cwt. from preceding week.

OREGON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.7. Topsoil 10% very short, 17% short, 71% adequate, 2% surplus. Subsoil 2% very short, 24% short, 74% adequate. Barley planted 71%, 75% 1998, 64% avg. Spring wheat planted 90%, 87% 1998. Winter wheat 3% very poor, 15% poor, 39% fair, 40% good, 3% excellent. Range, pasture feed 11% poor, 32% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Activities: The Westside catching up on fertilizing, spraying grain, seed fields. Spring oats being planted, hop yards being fertilized. Sugar beets being planted in Klamath Basin, emerging in Malheur County, some replanting done due to frost kill. Spring seeded grains starting emergence. Dry conditions in Mid-Columbia Basin hindering crop progress. Balled, burlapped trees, shrubs, bedding plants of all types moved to retail outlets. Some field planting started. Klamath Basin vegetable seed growers fumigating, receiving seed. Planting of salad vegetables continued in Willamette Valley, rhubarb harvest underway, some onions planted. Northeast reported asparagus harvest started, onion planting nearing completion. Potato planting 70% complete, emergence slow due to cool soil temperature. Malheur County reported onions emerging, potato planting continued. Willamette Valley pears, cherries blooming, prunes finishing bloom. Caneberries greenening, buds starting to show. Sprays being applied to hazelnuts. Rogue River Valley fruit trees blooming, raspberries, strawberries starting to bud. Hood River Valley pears continued to bloom, early apple varieties started to bloom, cherry bloom ending in lower valley. Upper valley Anjou pears began to bloom. Wasco County cherries at petal fall. Fruit trees blooming in Northeast. Livestock in good to excellent condition. Cattle branding continued. Cattle turned out on eastern ranges started, supplemental feeding continued. Northeast lower

elevation ranges need precipitation. Warmer temperatures started improving grass growth.

PENNSYLVANIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.3. Soil moisture 1% very short, 3% short, 70% adequate, 26% surplus. Plowing 50% complete, 62% 1998, 46% avg. Potatoes planted 15% complete, 16% 1998, 13% avg. Tobacco beds planted 100% complete, 100% 1998, 94% avg. Barley heading or headed, 0% complete, 50% 1998, 12% avg. Wheat crop 4% poor, 15% fair, 70% good, 11% excellent. Oat 1% poor, 36% fair, 56% good, 7% excellent. Alfalfa, alfalfa mixtures stand 1% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 67% good, 7% excellent. Timothy clover stand 1% very poor, 3% poor, 22% fair, 67% good, 7% excellent. Peaches 80% pink, 93% 1998, 53% avg.; 60% full bloom or past, 86% 1998, 31% avg. Cherries 80% pink, 98% 1998, 50% avg.; 60% full bloom or past, 96% 1998, 35% avg. Apples 50% pink, 76% 1998, 36% avg.; 20% full bloom or past, 55% 1998, 17% avg. Activities included: Spring plowing; planting oats, alfalfa, potatoes and corn; machinery maintenance; fixing fences; spreading fertilizers; caring for livestock; spraying, pruning fruit trees.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Soil moisture 14% very short, 62% short, 24% adequate. Barley 40% headed, 37% 1998, 29% avg.; 10% turned color, 0% 1998, 2% avg.; 25% fair, 50% good, 25% excellent. Cantaloupes 87% planted, 83% 1998, 82% avg. Corn 96% planted, 88% 1998, 93% avg. Cucumbers 80% planted, 63% 1998, 74% avg. Cotton 15% planted, 6% 1998, 14% avg. Hay 30% harvested, 20% 1998, 29% avg. Oats 75% headed, 63% 1998, 71% avg.; 6% poor, 37% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Peaches 5% fair, 75% good, 20% excellent. Rye 75% headed, 74% 1998, 45% avg.; 10% turned color, 5% 1998, 11% avg.; 6% poor, 37% fair, 56% good, 1% excellent. Peanuts 22% planted, 2% 1998, 16% avg. Sorghum 35% planted, 13% 1998, 12% avg. Snapbeans 60% planted, 60% 1998, 61% avg. Tobacco 80% transplanted, 78% 1998, 76% avg. Tomatoes 94% planted, 74% 1998, 85% avg. Watermelons 93% planted, 87% 1998, 86% avg. Winter wheat 82% Headed, 62% 1998, 70% avg.; 10% turning color, 0% 1998, 5% avg.; 2% poor, 38% fair, 58% good, 2% excellent.

SOUTH DAKOTA: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.7. Subsoil 1% short, 64% adequate, 35% surplus. Topsoil 69% adequate, 31% surplus. Dry, sunny conditions early in the week allowed producers to resume small grain planting, begin row crop seeding. Winter rye 18% excellent, 62% good, 20% fair. Alfalfa 24% excellent, 62% good, 14% fair. Range, pasture feed 20% excellent, 63% good, 16% fair, 1% poor. Cattle 25% excellent, 68% good, 7% fair. Sheep 26% excellent, 65% good, 9% fair. Calving 74% completed, 77% 1998. Lambing 76% completed, 83% 1998. Cattle moved to pasture 19%. Newborn calf death losses 31% below normal, 66% normal, 3% above normal. Newborn lamb death losses 26% below normal, 73% normal, 1% above normal. Feed supplies 5% short, 82% adequate, 13% surplus. Stock water supplies 1% short, 73% adequate, 26% surplus.

TENNESSEE: Days suitable for fieldwork 6. Topsoil 2% very short, 31% short, 62% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 20% short, 72% adequate, 7% surplus. Temperatures for the week ranged from 2 to 6° above normal, while most areas throughout the State accumulated below normal amounts of precipitation. Corn 65% planted, 57% 1998, 58% avg.; 25% emerged, 27% 1998. Tobacco 88% plants up, 91% 1998, 87% avg. Wheat 96% jointed, 100% 1998, 94% avg.; 35% headed, 41% 1998, 33% avg.; 3% poor, 16% fair, 56% good, 25% excellent;. Apples 99% budding or beyond, 100% 1998, 99% avg.; 90% blooming or beyond, 99% 1998, 94% avg. Pasture feed 1% very poor, 6% poor, 30% fair, 52% good, 11% excellent. Strawberries 3% poor, 25% fair, 60% good, 12% excellent. Alfalfa, 2% poor, 27% fair, 53% good, 18% excellent. Corn producers made up for lost time last week, planted an additional 30% of the State's acreage. The dry conditions were a welcome sight for farmers in western areas who have battled wet field conditions for most of the Spring. On the other hand, farmers in southern and eastern counties welcomed the weekend rains. Extension agents, producers in these areas reported last week that pasture and hay fields were in need of moisture. Low moisture levels are limiting forage growth, delaying corn emergence.

TEXAS: Warm, windy conditions returned mid-week allowing fieldwork to continue. High winds parts of State caused further drying out soils. Rainfall limited for week, however wet conditions lingered early week from previous rains some areas. Frost damage to corn, sorghum showing up some areas from cold temperatures April 16th-17th. Livestock performance remained good feedlots, native ranges, pastures. Additional haying activity occurred some parts of State.

Crops: Small Grains: High Plains fields continued head out, making good progress. Cold temperatures on 16th apparently did little damage in Plains. Fields rapidly turned color in Blacklands, Central late week under warmer temperatures. More fields cut for hay parts of North Central. A few fields were harvested South late last week. Corn planting began more fields High Plains. Fields made good growth late week in Blacklands, Central, however

some fields burned by frost on 16th but were growing out by late week. Fields in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley continued to tassel, make good progress. Fields along Upper Coast also made good progress with minimal frost damage reported. Statewide corn condition rated 78% normal compared 83% 1998.

51% emerged, 55% 1998. Cotton producers in Plains continued wait further soil warming. Planting expected to begin within next couple weeks. Planting continued in Blacklands late week. Early week cool temperatures slowed growth, however a rapid return to warmer weather improved growth. Fields in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley beginning to square. Peanuts planting slowly increased South Central, just beginning North Central. Growth on early planted fields improved by mid-week. Rice planting continued along Upper Coast most week with producers flushing fields to increase emergence. High winds caused problems some fields. Rice condition rated 83% normal compared 82% 1998. Sorghum planting got underway some fields in Plains during week. Planting also continued parts north central. Growth improved in Blacklands, Central late week under warmer temperatures. Some light frost damage seen early week but by late week fields growing out. A good rain would be beneficial these areas. Growth good in Coastal Bend, Rio Grande Valley. Planting continued along Upper Coast where frost burned some fields. Sorghum 74% normal compared 77% 1998. Soybeans: Planting continued along Upper Coast, early fields emerging to good stands. Growth good late week in Northern Blacklands, however some frost damage occurred previously. Other Crops: Sunflowers 8% planted, 4% 1998, 3% avg.

Commercial Vegetables: Rio Grande Valley, onion, cantaloup harvest continued, honeydew harvest got underway. San Antonio-Winter Garden, onion harvest began additional fields late week. East, frost damage continued to show up some fields. Most sweetpotatoes set out. High Plains, cool temperatures slowed planting early week. Trans Pecos: chili peppers emerging good stands. Peaches: Trees many parts of state continued to show poor leaf development as result of low chill hours. Pecans: Trees continued leaf out most areas. Nuts forming in Blacklands, Central. Zinc spraying continued many groves as conditions allowed.

Range and Livestock: Grasses some areas showed some effects of frost on 16th however late week return warmer temperatures growth resumed. Haying of small grains increased some areas. Native hay pastures also cut some areas. Livestock conditions remained good most areas. Some areas of State missed rains, need moisture badly to help grass growth, replenish stock tank water. Flies, lice continued plague cattle many areas.

UTAH: Days suitable for fieldwork 4. Topsoil 9% short, 85% adequate, 6% surplus. Subsoil 1% very short, 13% short, 79% adequate, 7% surplus. Pasture, range feed 7% poor, 44% fair, 40% good, 9% excellent. Spring wheat planted 85%, 89% 1998, 86% avg.; emerged 53%, 47% 1998, 54% avg. Barley planted 79%, 79% 1998, 82% avg.; emerged 51%, 42% 1998, 52% avg. Oat planted 51%, 37% 1998, 44% avg.; emerged 22%, 16% 1998, 24% avg. Corn planted 5%. Alfalfa hay height (first crop only) 3 inches. Sweet cherries full bloom or past 99%, 80% 1998. Tart cherries full bloom or past 15%, 9% 1998. Pears full bloom or past 36%, 19% 1998. Peaches full bloom or past 95%, 89% 1998. Apples full bloom or past 4%, 5% 1998, 10% avg. Potatoes planted 4%. Cows calved 90%, 89% 1998, 87% avg. Ewes lambed on farm 92%, 91% 1998, 88% avg.; on range 70%, 67% 1998, 62% avg. Sheep sheared on farm 93%, 87% 1998, 86% avg.; on range 77%, 71% 1998, 71% avg. Sheep condition, 19% fair, 75% good, 6% excellent. Major farm/ranch activities included spring planting, spring tillage, spraying fruit, pruning fruit trees, shearing sheep, lambing, calving. Excessive rain during the week stopped planting in many counties but brought much needed moisture. Fruit blooms were damaged by below freezing temperatures.

VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 5.8. Topsoil 6% very short, 28% short, 61% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 7% very short, 29% short, 59% adequate, 5% surplus. Range, pasture feed 1% very poor, 9% poor, 28% fair, 54% good, 8% excellent. Livestock 5% poor, 21% fair, 62% good, 12% excellent. Hay, Other 2% very poor, 9% poor, 41% fair, 40% good, 8% excellent. Hay, Alfalfa 3% poor, 25% fair, 54% good, 18% excellent. Corn for grain 30% planted, 29% 1998, 27% avg. Winter wheat 2% very poor, 6% poor, 19% fair, 59% good, 14% excellent. Barley 2% very poor, 5% poor, 22% fair, 58% good, 13% excellent. Tobacco, Greenhouse 1% poor, 5% fair, 59% good, 35% excellent. Tobacco, Plantbeds 1% very poor, 6% poor, 18% fair, 73% good, 2% excellent. Peanuts 2% planted, 4% 1998, 5% avg. Cotton 5% planted, 4% 1998, 15% avg. Potatoes, Summer 99% planted, 99% 1998, 100% avg. Apples, All 8% fair, 86% good, 6% excellent. Peaches 9% fair, 79% good, 12% excellent. Lack of significant rainfall allowed 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork this past week. A majority of weather stations across the Commonwealth reported below normal precipitation levels. Most localities are in need of prolonged, soaking showers in order to replenish surface water sources and subsoil water tables. Producers are beginning to harvest the first cutting of hay for the season. Reduced hay yields have been realized by some, due in part to cool, dry weather. A few tobacco producers began transplanting while others remain busy preparing land. Plantbeds rated mostly fair to good. However, additional rainfall would improve conditions. It is particularly important to producers growing plants in conventional plantbeds that additional rainfall is received. Dairy producers began to harvest small grain acres for silage this past week. Small grain producers have reported below normal levels of disease, pest infestation this year, are hopeful that this will lead to above average yields. Producers reported that the soil in many areas has not

reached the temperatures necessary to plant their crops, particularly cotton, peanuts. Other activities for the week included transplanting vegetables, some early tobacco, continued pruning of fruit trees, tilling for full season soybeans, turning cattle out to pasture as well as preparing land for corn, cotton, peanut planting.

WASHINGTON: Days suitable for fieldwork 6.8. Topsoil 4% very short, 20% short, 71% adequate, 5% surplus. Subsoil 4% very short, 24% short, 70% adequate, 2% surplus. Winter wheat, dryland 3% very poor, 8% poor, 47% fair, 40% good, 2% excellent; irrigated 100% good. Warmer nights helped improve the condition of the winter wheat. Disease, weed pressures were relatively low compared to 1998. Spring wheat, dryland 3% poor, 82% fair, 15% good; irrigated 100% good. Planted 75%, 84% 1998; 55% emerged, 55% 1998. Warmer weather improved the condition of spring crops also, although, more moisture would be beneficial. Barley, dryland 1% poor, 89% fair, 10% good; irrigated, 100% good. Planted 75%, 76% 1998; 40% emerged, 37% 1998. Hay, other roughage supplies 8% short, 72% adequate, 20% surplus. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 15% poor, 40% fair, 41% good, 2% excellent. Apples, cherries were in full bloom across the State, producers were applying thinning sprays to the apple trees. Growers were pruning grapes, planting a variety of vegetables such as carrots, onions, potatoes. Asparagus, rhubarb was being harvested. The warmer weather was beneficial to pastures as well as the spring crops. Daffodil harvest was winding down while tulip harvest was underway.

WEST VIRGINIA: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.8. Topsoil 13% short, 77% adequate, 10% surplus. Producers made good progress planting crops despite rain across most areas of the State. Planting progress is ahead of 1998. Wheat 1% poor, 10% fair, 75% good, 14% excellent. Hay 10% poor, 39% fair, 46% good, 5% excellent. Intended Acreage Prepared for Spring Planting 67%, 59% 1998, 61% avg. Corn planted 18%, 10% 1998, 18% avg. Oats planted 67%, 29% 1998, 56% avg.; emerged 30%, 15% 1998, 22% avg. Tobacco beds seeded 85%, 81% 1998, 88% avg. Tobacco beds emerged 54%, 48% 1998, 61% avg. Apples 15% fair, 85% good. Peaches 16% fair, 84% good. Cattle 19% fair, 79% good, 2% excellent; 94% calved. Sheep 1% poor, 20% fair, 78% good, 1% excellent; 92% lambed. Feed grain supplies 2% short, 98% adequate. Hay, roughage supplies 4% short, 96% adequate. Activities: Field preparation, planting, calving, lambing, and general maintenance.

WISCONSIN: Days suitable for fieldwork 2.5. Soil moisture 2% very short, 6% short, 56% adequate, 36% surplus. Spring tillage completed: 26% 1999, 28% 1998, 22% avg. Last week, the average weekly temperatures were 4 to 7° below normal in all districts. In addition, most parts of the State received some precipitation. The combined result was that most farmers across the state found it too wet and cool to get into the fields. For days suitable for fieldwork, the individual districts varied from 0.4 days in the Southeast to 5.2 days in the Northeast. The most precipitation occurred in the southern districts where approximately 3.0 inches of rain fell. The least precipitation occurred in the northern districts, with the Northeast District receiving only 0.1 in. In terms of cumulative precipitation for this growing season, all districts are at or above normal except for the northeast district, which is 0.80 in. below normal. This has some farmers concerned in that region. However, the apparent moisture shortage does not appear to be a problem yet, as most pastures in that region were rated fair or better, existing crops are still green. In spite of the uncooperative weather, farmers found some time to advance the progress of the state's crops. Progress of spring tillage, oats planted is still ahead of their respective 5-year averages, but last week's rains brought progress closer to the averages. Corn planting has just barely started, should accelerate rapidly if the weather is sunny and warmer. Most reporters in the central district observed that a lot of potatoes were planted last week. Cranberries appeared to have survived the winter well, many fruit trees are starting to bud, grow new leaves. Pasture feed 2% very poor, 6% poor, 21% fair, 57% good, 14% excellent.

WYOMING: Days suitable for fieldwork 3.4. Topsoil 7% very short, 4% short, 70% adequate, 19% surplus. Subsoil 7% very short, 14% short, 65% adequate, 14% surplus. Barley seeded 73%, 68% 1998, 75% avg.; emerged 46%, 29% 1998, 33% avg. Oats seeded 39%, 28% 1998, 38% avg.; emerged 12%, 5% 1998, 7% avg. Spring wheat seeded 44%, 51% 1998, 41% avg.; emerged 25%, 16% 1998, 10% avg. Sugar beets planted 65%, 56% 1998, 68% avg. Spring calving 86%, 86% 1998, 87% avg. Calf losses 20% light, 79% normal, 1% heavy. Farm flock ewes lambed 91%, 94% 1998, 93% avg. Farm flock sheep shorn 87%, 90% 1998, 91% avg. Range flock lambed 29%, 31% 1998, 25% avg. Range flock sheep shorn 64%, 54% 1998, 59% avg. Lamb losses 10% light, 89% normal, 1% heavy. Range, pasture feed 2% very poor, 4% poor, 39% fair, 49% good, 6% excellent. Prospective irrigation supplies 13% short, 69% adequate, 18% surplus. Stock water supplies 4% short, 92% adequate, 4% surplus. Spring storms left many areas to wet and muddy for fieldwork.

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 18 - 24, 1999

HIGHLIGHTS

FSU-WESTERN: Unseasonably warm, dry weather in Russia and the eastern half of Ukraine favored rapid planting progress.

EUROPE: Cool, showery weather slowed spring grain and summer crop planting in most areas except in Spain, where unrelenting drought in central and southern areas worsened conditions for winter grains and spring-planted crops.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Prolonged dryness in Morocco and western Algeria worsened conditions for winter grains in the filling stage.

AUSTRALIA: Sorghum and cotton harvests made good progress.

SOUTH AFRICA: Rain slowed summer crop harvesting but improved wheat prospects.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Showers continued to slow grain harvesting in the Philippines, while drier weather aided rice harvesting in Java, Indonesia.

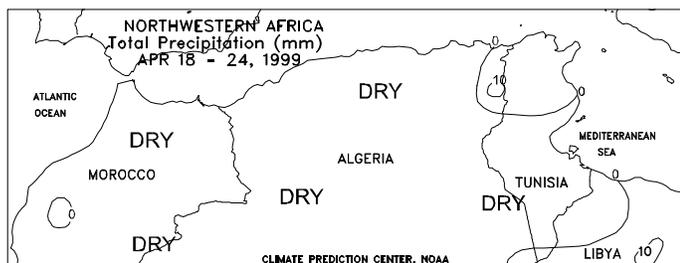
EASTERN ASIA: In the North China Plain, mostly dry weather reduced moisture for non-irrigated winter wheat, but favored early summer crop planting.

SOUTH AMERICA: In central Argentina, heavy weekend rains slowed summer crop harvesting and possibly damaged maturing soybeans. Mostly dry weather favored soybean harvesting in southern Brazil.



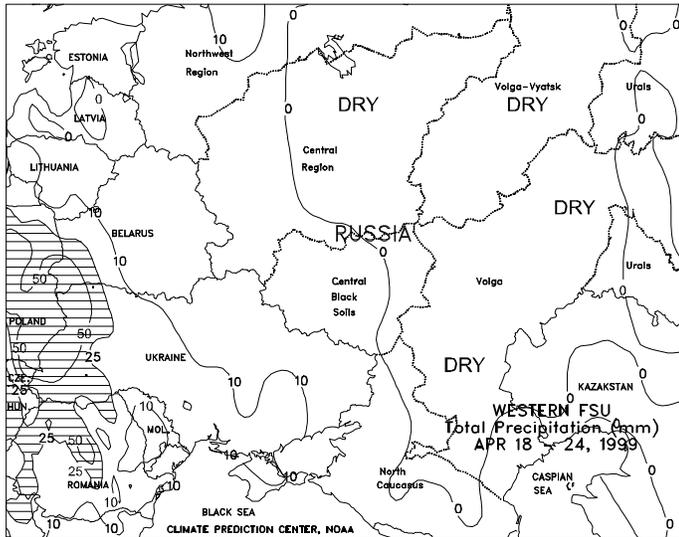
EUROPE

Cool, showery weather prevailed over a large portion of the continent, slowing spring grain and summer crop planting. Greatest amounts of precipitation (20-60 mm or more) were observed in England, France, northern Italy, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, and Romania. In Germany, lesser amounts of precipitation (around 10 mm) caused only brief delays in fieldwork. Elsewhere, mostly dry weather in Bulgaria and Greece favored rapid planting progress. Drought conditions worsened in southern and central Spain, causing further reductions in winter grain prospects and stressing newly emerging summer crops. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C below normal in most of Europe, slowing winter crop development. The exception was in Spain, where weekly temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal.



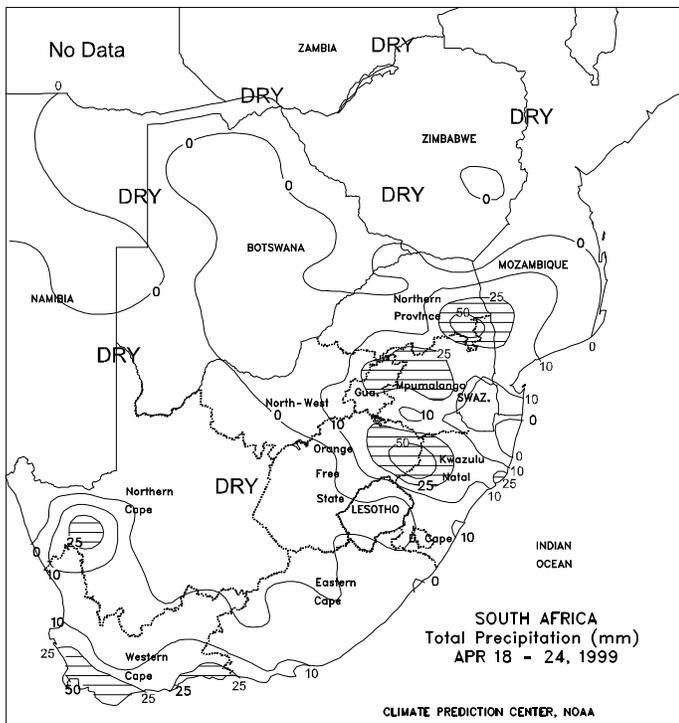
NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

The fifth consecutive week of dryness prevailed over winter grain areas in Morocco and western Algeria, causing further reductions in yield prospects for winter grains in the filling stage. Farther east, dry weather in eastern Algeria and Tunisia followed light showers last week. So far this season, growing conditions in eastern Algeria and Tunisia have been generally favorable for winter grains. Weekly temperatures averaged 2 to 5 degrees C above normal in Morocco and western Algeria, hastening maturity in winter grains. Weekly temperatures averaged near normal in eastern Algeria and Tunisia.



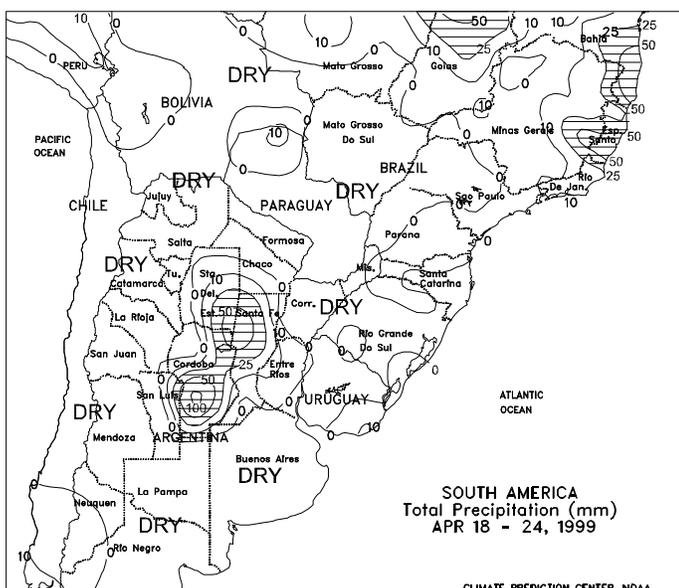
FSU-WESTERN

High pressure, centered over Russia, kept most of Russia and the eastern half of Ukraine unseasonably warm and dry. As a result, fieldwork for spring grain, sugarbeet, and sunflower planting progressed rapidly in these areas and was running ahead of last year's pace. The unseasonably mild weather promoted rapid growth of winter grains. Crop progress for winter grains ranged from jointing in Ukraine, Belarus, and southern Russia, to tillering in the Baltics and northern Russia. Weekly temperatures ranged from 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in most of Ukraine and southern Russia and 4 to 8 degrees C above normal in northern Russia, Belarus, Estonia, and Latvia. In western Ukraine, a powerful storm system from eastern Europe moved into the region early in the week, bringing a sharp drop in temperatures and turning rain to heavy snow. The strong surface high over Russia prevented the storm system from moving farther eastward. Topsoil moisture was likely becoming short in the North Caucasus region of Russia, where blowing dust was observed at a few locations during the week.



SOUTH AFRICA

Rain (10-25 mm or more) slowed summer crop harvesting across the central and eastern corn belt. The moisture was timely, however, for wheat planting, typically underway by now in this region. Temperatures averaged near to above normal in the eastern corn belt and slightly below normal in the west. Patchy frost and freezing temperatures marked the end of the growing season at a few locations in Free State and across northern corn areas. Elsewhere, scattered, mostly light showers (5-25 mm) caused minor disruptions of sugarcane harvesting along the coast. In Western Cape, timely rain (10-25 mm or more) covered the main wheat areas, also benefitting orchards and vineyards. In addition, cooler weather (temperatures averaging 2-3 degrees C below normal with highs in the lower 20's degrees C) reduced the need for supplemental irrigation.



SOUTH AMERICA

Dry weather favored summer crop harvesting across central Argentina for most of the week. However, late in the week (April 24-25), heavy showers (50-175 mm) fell across southern Cordoba and southern Santa Fe, slowing fieldwork, and possibly reducing soybean quality and damaging the maturing crop. Dry weather favored cotton harvesting in the north. According to reports as of April 16, Argentine corn was 37 percent harvested, compared with 40 percent last year, sunflower was 93 percent harvested, compared with 89 percent last year, soybeans were 11 percent harvested, compared with 19 percent last year, and cotton was 11 percent harvested, compared with 13 percent last year. In southern Brazil, dry weather greatly favored harvesting progress and winter wheat planting in Parana and Mato Grosso do Sul. According to reports as of April 23, Brazilian soybeans were 76 percent harvested, compared with 79 percent last year. In Rio Grande do Sul, soybeans were 42 percent harvested, compared with 60 percent last year. In the other major soybean-producing states, harvesting was over 80 percent complete.

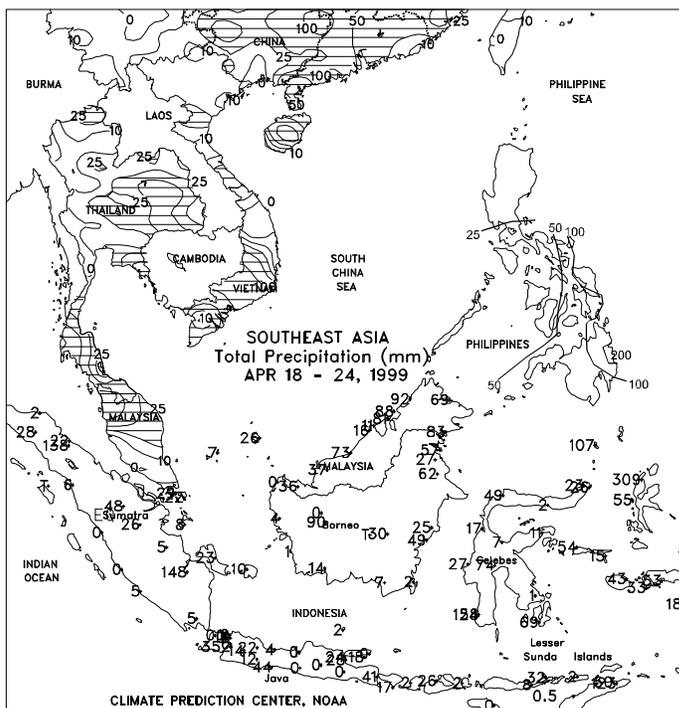
EASTERN ASIA

In the North China Plain, mostly dry, warm weather, with only isolated showers (10-50 mm), provided little moisture for rainfed jointing to reproductive winter wheat. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal, increasing crop water use. The dry weather, however, favored summer crop planting. In Manchuria, warm and mostly dry weather favored spring wheat and summer crop planting. Across the Yangtze Valley, widespread heavy showers (20-100 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 150 mm) again boosted irrigation supplies for early rice but possibly damaged reproductive to filling winter oilseeds and wheat. Moderate showers (25-60 mm) eased dryness across southern China. Temperatures averaged 3 to 5 degrees C above normal across central and southern China.



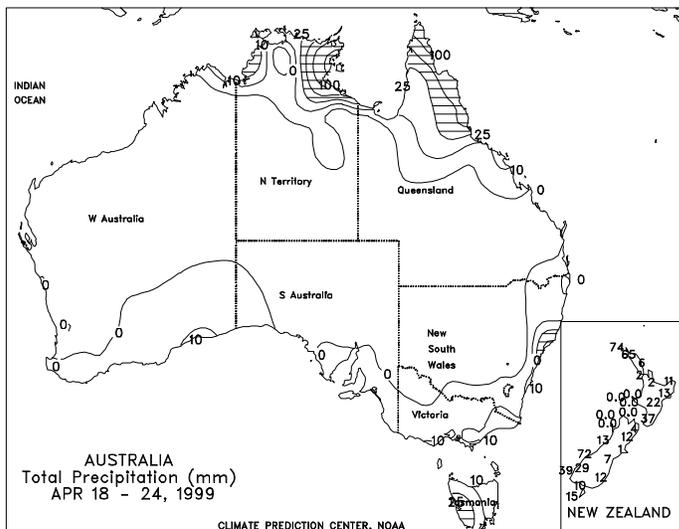
SOUTHEAST ASIA

Moderate to heavy showers (25-100 mm) continued to slow second-crop grain harvesting in the central and southern Philippines. Drier weather (less than 30 mm) aided harvesting on Luzon Island, Philippines. Moderate showers (10-50 mm) covered central and eastern Thailand, boosting irrigation supplies for main-season rice transplanting, which typically begins by early May. The showers, however, slowed early second-crop rice harvesting. In southern Vietnam, moderate to heavy showers (40-150 mm) slowed winter rice harvesting, while drier weather (10-35 mm) prevailed in the northern Red River Delta. Moderate showers (10-40 mm) continued to provide adequate moisture for oil palm in peninsular Malaysia. In Java, Indonesia, drier weather (5-25 mm) favored main-season rice harvesting.



AUSTRALIA

Cool, dry weather favored cotton and sorghum harvesting across New South Wales and Queensland. Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C below normal, with lows falling below 5 degrees C in the Darling Downs. Preparations for wheat and barley planting were likely underway across the region. Farther south, cool, dry weather also dominated the winter grain belt spanning South Australia and Victoria. Dry weather covered Western Australia but temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal, increasing evaporation rates. Wheat and barley planting typically begins across the south by early June. In New Zealand, drier weather returned to the main pasture and grain areas, with just a few isolated reports exceeding 25 mm. Locally heavy rain (50 mm or more) fell over plantation areas north of Auckland.



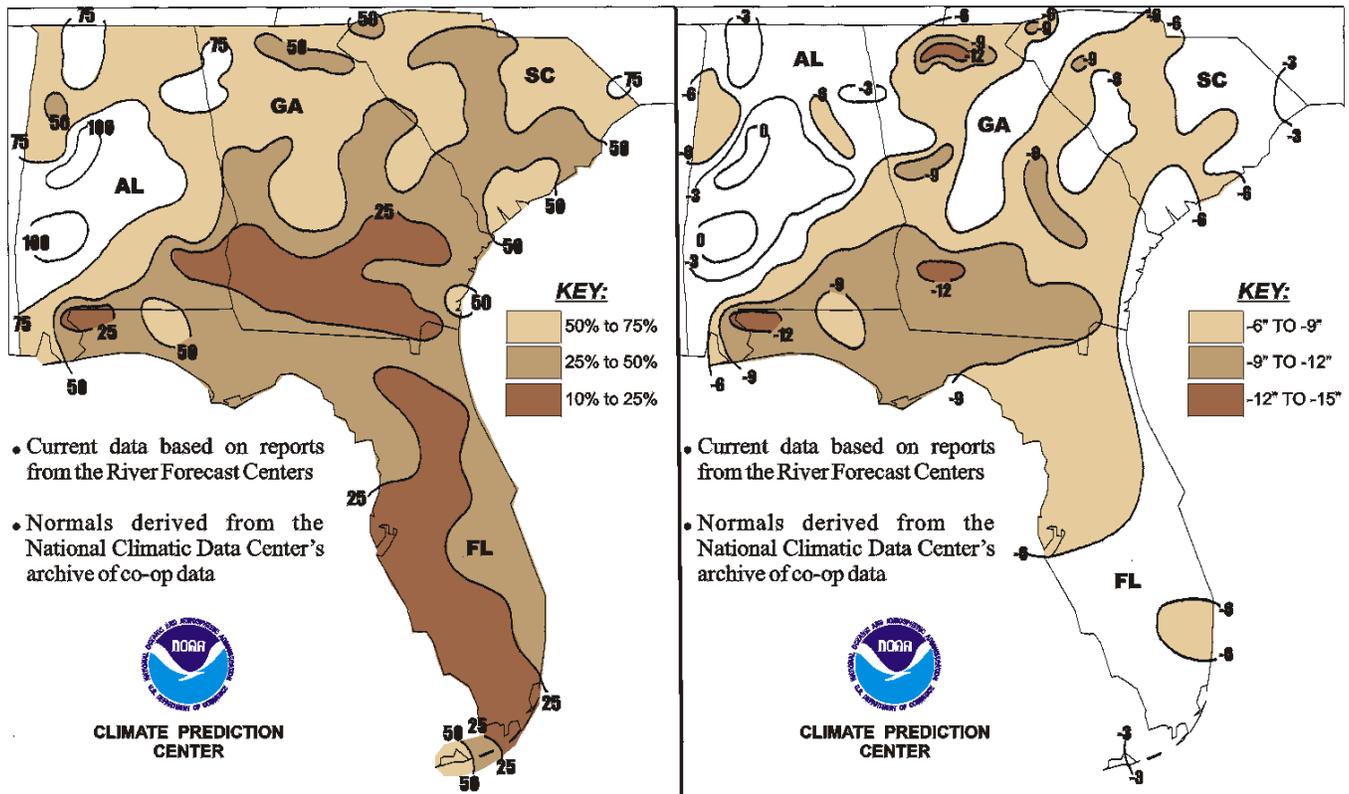
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 National Weather Service/Climate Prediction Center
 Managing Editor **David Miskus** (202) 720-7919
 Meteorologist **Clinton Wallace**
 Special Requests (202) 720-7917
 Subscriptions ... **John Kopman** (301) 763-8000 ext 7534
 **fax: (301) 763-8125**

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Percent of Normal Precipitation (left) & Departure from Normal Precipitation (right)
January 24 -- April 21, 1999 [88 days]



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